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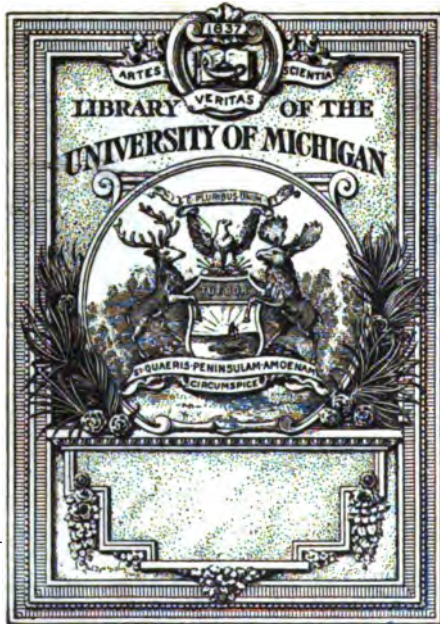
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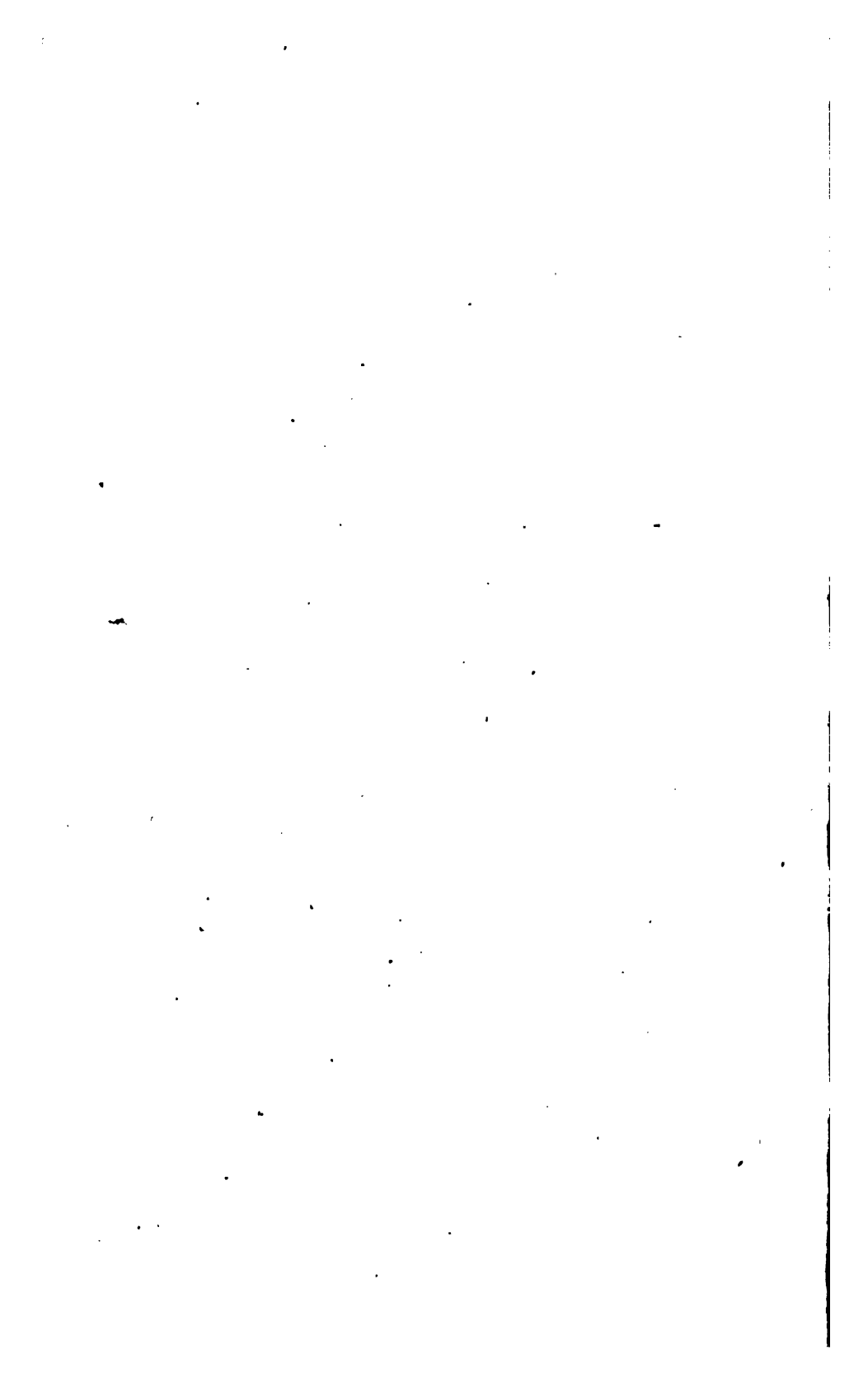


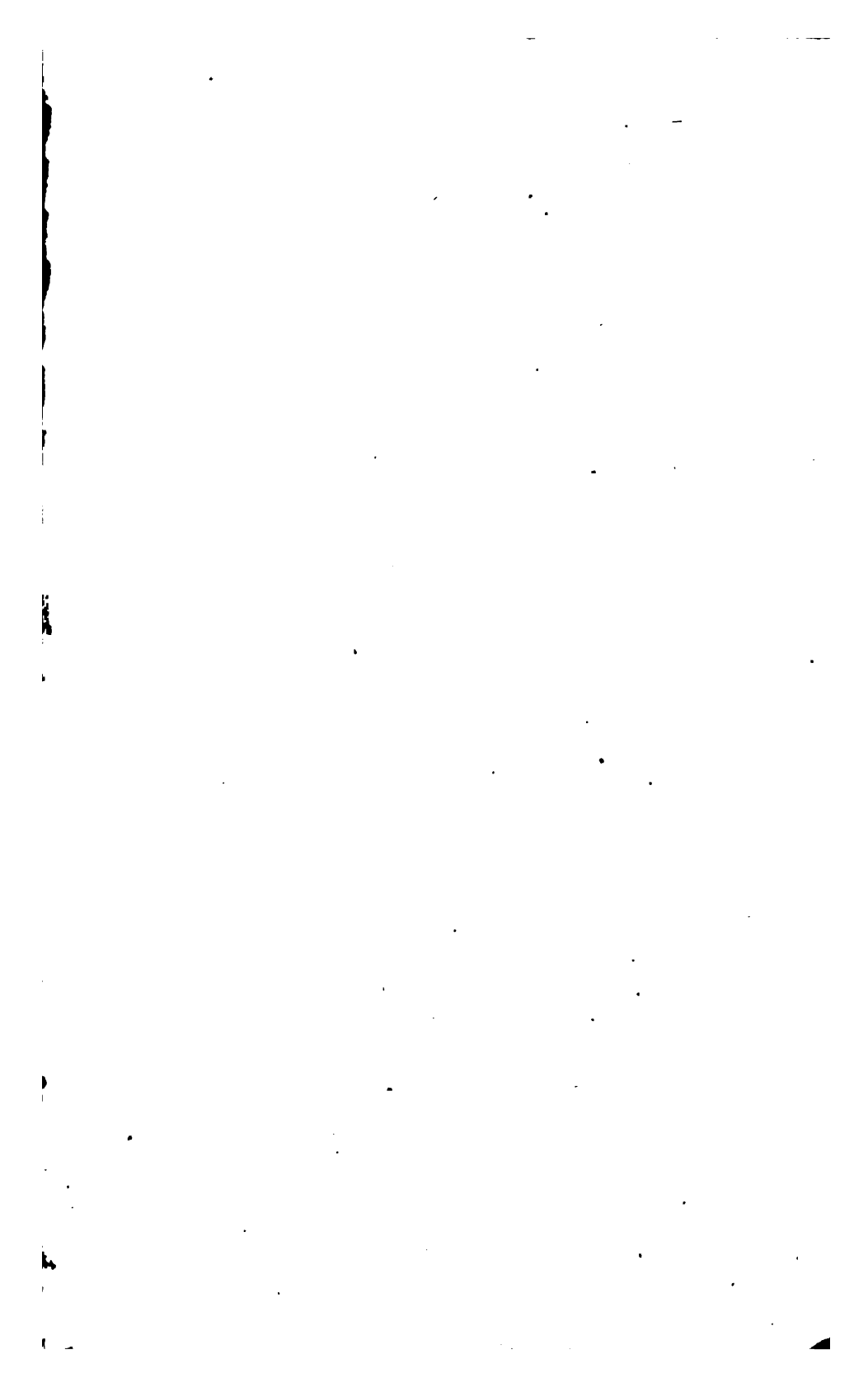
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THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,
AND
Boston Review,

Containing
Sketches and *Reports*
OF
Philosophy, RELIGION, History,
Arts and *Manners.*

Omnes unquam flosculos carpani atque delibem.

Vol. 4th.
1807.

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THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY

FOR
JANUARY, 1807.

ADDRESS OF THE EDITORS.

ON the commencement of a new volume of the Anthology, it becomes a suitable expression of our regard for its interests for us to pay our compliments to its patrons, and invite the attention of others to its claims. At this stage of the publication, it is unnecessary to be particular in pointing out the objects of the work, or explaining the principles on which it is conducted. On these subjects the volumes, already issued, will afford better evidence for making a decision, than our declarations. They will show how far we have accomplished our design of promoting useful knowledge and harmless amusement....sound principles....good morals....and correct taste. In our selections, essays, and reviews, we have wished to aid the cause of classical learning, so extravagantly decried and presumptuously neglected in this age of innovators and sciolists. We have aimed to withstand corruptions in literature; and to establish the authority of those laws of composition, which are founded in nature, in reason, and in experience. In proposing our judgment of authors, we have frequently discussed as well doctrines and opinions, as method and style; and in this discussion we trust we have appeared, what we profess to be, in politics neither worshippers nor contemners of the people...and in religion at once serious in belief and catholic in spirit.

We have conducted the Review under the conviction, that public criticism, upon writers for the publick, does not in itself imply either injustice or malevolence. At the same time we have sought to keep in mind those considerations, which should guide

and restrain the exercise of the right of literary censure....to make adequate allowance for the general and incurable diversity of taste, and for our own fallibility....and to espouse, with all becoming humanity, the feelings of the candidates for publick approbation. We would be the ministers of that criticism, which has been described, attending the Muses as an allegorical personage, to whom Justice gives a sceptre, and Labour and Truth a torch. To whatever errors or infirmities we may be liable in the execution of the delicate and responsible office of Reviewers, we disdain the imputation of aiming to gratify personal or party animosity under the specious form of a judgment upon a book. If any of our readers wish to know, on what grounds we vindicate the liberties taken with some works in the department of our Review, let them peruse again the Remarker, number five, on this subject; and they will probably admit the justness of our general rules, though they may differ from us in their particular application. It should be a consolation to writers, disposed to complain of our severity, that we cannot obstruct, if we can retard their entrance into the temple of fame; because time will do that justice to their merits, which we may refuse. They should also recollect, that the majority are of their party....and that they have a refuge from our supposed persecution in the prepossessions of the many. Those worthy people, who think offences against the laws of good writing venial, at least where the principles of religion and virtue are not involved; those who praise almost every thing, from an affectation of candour and a desire to be praised in return; together with the half-learned, the ignorant, the weak, and the interested, take their side with the author against the critick. These persons will commend where they please, without asking our permission; and will regard our office as a usurpation upon their prerogative of judging and feeling for themselves.

We are sensible how much the value of the Monthly Anthology might be enhanced, not only by the more industrious and vigilant exercise of the talents, hitherto employed in supplying its pages; but also by the contributions of some, who have seldom or never appeared in its columns. We know a few, who have wit and sentiment and information, which would augment our stock of entertainment. We likewise know a few, possessing intimate views of important subjects, with skill to display them to the

greatest advantage....We wish they would acknowledge the publick claim to their communications, enforced by the authority of the great moral poet :

“ Heaven doth with us as we with torches do,
Not light them for themselves.”

Perhaps the present state of society tends in a peculiar degree to foster general selfishness of character. A man's intellectual attainments appear to be regarded, as the means only of his personal advantage. Doubtless many men of sense ascribe to us a species of fanaticism, as the spring of that propensity we discover to enlighten, improve, and entertain a publick, which gives us for our pains neither fame nor money. We suggest to them a solution of our conduct, which does not assign us a place greatly below or above the standard of human nature. We are exposed to the influence of that “ *Esprit de corps*,” which animates literary association. The pleasures, found in composition and in the exercise of the mental powers, put some of us upon blotting paper. If the cause still appear inadequate to the effect, we must be supposed to feel a desire to be useful in the way, which our pursuits and studies direct ; or if this seem too elevated a principle, let our services be deemed symptoms and effects of an impulse of more doubtful value....what a late writer on moral philosophy denominates *the passion for reforming the world*.

We must confess, however, that we have a motive somewhat interested for wishing, that the pecuniary receipts of our publication may rise as high as possible above its demands, which is, that all the surplus funds are applied to the support and increase of a *Publick Library* ;...one of those institutions, of which every scholar in most parts of our country feels the want....which our government from its nature does not comprise within its cares....and which nothing but the industry and munificence of individuals will establish and supply. The respectable patronage now given to the *Anthology* is sufficient to encourage our perseverance. But we wish its more extensive circulation ; and hope its friends will speak in its favour. We wish this increase of patronage, not merely because this work is the object of our affection and partly the fruit of our industry and genius, such as they are ; nor merely from an opinion that it may contribute to make its readers more wise, good,

and happy....but also, because its avails go to a general object of real importance.

Every judicious effort to promote the love of Letters and Arts is entitled to countenance, for this, among other reasons,...that a progress in letters and arts corresponds to the progress of society in other respects, in our country. We are becoming familiar with wealth. Out of wealth grows luxury. If those enjoyments that flow from literature and taste are not emulated, we shall be exposed to that enervating and debasing luxury, the object of which is sensual indulgence...its immediate effect, vice...and its ultimate issue, publick degradation and ruin.

With respect to the probable merit of this periodical work in future, we speak with caution ; although we are determined to use our endeavours to make it worthy of the publick patronage. We have always wished to promise little and perform more. We hope it will not degenerate ; we believe it will improve. At the close of the last year, it pleased the Supreme Disposer, in his inscrutable wisdom, to remove, by death, one of our associates, who often contributed to enrich and adorn our miscellany ; who, in erudition, in genius, in taste ; in honour, generosity, and humanity ; in every liberal sentiment, and every liberal accomplishment, was surpassed by few. We sensibly feel, and we deeply deplore, this loss to ourselves, to society, and to our country. The number, however, of our fellow labourers and correspondents is increasing. We shall this year attempt to treat a few subjects in a systematick form. We may offer strictures on different modes of education. We hope to furnish American biography. In our reviews we shall generally confine ourselves to such works as may be interesting, either from their subjects or their execution ; not wholly omitting those fugitive publications, which are worthy of notice merely as facts in the history of American literature, or as topicks of useful or pleasant animadversion. We may endeavour to portray the characters of various standard authors in several departments of science and taste, for the benefit of those, who would know what guides to choose in the conduct of their studies.—We renew our request to the several booksellers in every part of the United States, to transmit to us a copy of all books, pamphlets, literary projects, &c. immediately after publication.

BIOGRAPHY.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND CHARACTER OF DR. JOSEPH WARTON,

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF MR. WOOLL'S MEMOIRS OF HIM.

THE Rev. John Wool, a Wykehamist, now master of Midhurst school, in Sussex, has just published, in a quarto volume, the Life, Poems, and Correspondence of Dr. Joseph Warton.

It appears that Dr. Warton, was born at the house of his maternal grandfather, the Rev. Joseph Richardson, at Dunsfold in Surrey, in April 1722. His father, as it is well known, was Vicar of Basingstoke, in Hampshire, had been Professor of Poetry at Oxford, and was himself a poet: as is proved by a posthumous volume, published by this, his eldest son, with the following title. *Poems on several occasions, by the Rev. Mr. Thomas Warton, &c.* It was published by subscription. The editor had it some time in hand. In a letter to his brother Thomas, dated 29 Oct. 1746, he says, "Since you left Basingstoke, I have found a great many poems of my father's, much better than any we read together. These I am strongly advised to publish by subscription, by Sir Stukely Shuckburgh, Dr. Jackson, and other friends. These are sufficient to make a six shilling octavo volume; and they imagine, as my father's acquaintance was large, it would be easy to raise two or three hundred pounds; a very solid argument in our present situation. It would more than pay all my father's debts. Let me know your thoughts upon this subject; but do not yet tell Hampton, or

Smythe, who would at first condemn us, without knowing the prudential reasons, which induce us to do it." The author died in the preceding year, 1745.

But Joseph Warton had already published a quarto pamphlet of his own poems, as I shall particularize presently. He was admitted on the foundation of Winchester college, 1736, and soon distinguished himself for his poetical talents. As early as Oct. 1739, he became a contributor to the poetry of the Gentleman's Magazine, in conjunction with his friend Collins, and another; by some verses entitled "Sappho's Advice," signed Monitorius, and printed at p. 545.* In 1740, he was removed from Winchester, and being superannuated, was entered of Oriel College, Oxford.

How he spent his time at Oxford may be guessed from the following interesting and eloquent passages of a letter to his father. "To help me in some parts of my last collections from Longinus, I have read a good part of Dionysius Halicarnassus: so that I think by this time I ought fully

* It is worth remarking how many first productions of persons of genius this Magazine has ushered into the world. In the same month appears Akenside's "Hymn to Science," dated from "Newcastle upon Tyne," 1739; in the next page appears a Juvenile sonnet by Collins, signed *Delicatus*; and in the next month, p. 599, is inserted Mrs. Carter's beautiful Ode to Melancholy.

to understand the structure and disposition of words and sentences. I shall read Longinus as long as I live : it is impossible not to catch fire and raptures from his glowing style. The noble causes he gives at the conclusion for the decay of the sublime amongst men, to wit, the love of pleasure, riches and idleness, would almost make one look down upon the world with contempt, and rejoice in, and wish for toils, poverty, and dangers, to combat with. For me, it only serves to give me a greater distaste, contempt, and hatred of the Profanum Vulgus, and to tread under foot this ἀνθρώπων πάθος as thoroughly below, and unworthy of man. It is the freedom, you give me, of unburdening my soul to you, that has troubled you so long : but so it is that the next pleasant thing to conversing with you is writing to you : I promise myself a more exalted degree of pleasure next vacation, by being in some measure better skilled to converse with you than formerly."

In 1744 he took his degree of A. B. was ordained on his father's curacy, and officiated there, till Feb. 1746. In this year he published "*Odes on various subjects. By Joseph Warton, B. A.*" &c.

The greater part of these have been republished by Mr. Wooll. There seems no sufficient reason for what he has omitted. The whole have been lately reprinted for Sharpe's edition of the Poets.

In the following year he was presented by the Duke of Bolton to the small rectory of Wynslade, at the back of Hackwood Park, a pleasing and picturesque retirement, which gave him an opportunity at once of gratifying an ardent attachment by marriage, and pursuing his poetical studies. Two years afterwards he was called to

go abroad with his patron ; and on this occasion his brother, Thomas, wrote that beautiful " Ode sent to a friend on leaving a favourite village in Hampshire," which alone, in my opinion, would place him in the higher order of poets ; and which is one of the most exquisite descriptive pieces in the whole body of English poetry. Every line paints, with the nicest and most discriminative touches, the scenery about Wynslade and Hackwood.

" Ah ! mourn, thou lov'd retreat ! No
more
Shall classick steps thy scenes explore !"

&c. &c.
" For lo ! the Bard, who rapture found
In every rural sight and sound ;
Whose genius warm, and judgment
chaste
No charm of genuine nature pass'd ;
Who felt the muse's purest fires,
Far from thy favour'd haunt retires :
Who peopled all thy vocal bowers
With shadowy shapes, and airy pow-
ers !"

The first of T. Warton's sonnets is also addressed to Wynslade : and the images in several of his other poems are drawn from this neighbourhood.*

In about six months, when they had advanced no farther than Montauban, Dr. Warton left his patron, and returned to his family. He now dedicated his whole time to the translation of Virgil's Eclogues and Georgics : which he soon afterwards published, with Pitt's Translation of the *Æneid*, and the original Latin of the whole ; accompanied by notes, dissertations, commentaries, and essays. This work was well received ; and Oxford conferred the degree of A. M. by diploma on the Editor.

* The lines which begin
" Musing thro' the lawn park"
I presume to allude to Hackwood, &c.

At this time Dr. Johnson, in a letter dated 8 March 1753, applied to him from Hawksworth to assist in the *Adventurer*. "Being desired," says he, "to look out for another hand, my thoughts necessarily fixed on you, whose fund of literature will enable you to assist them, with very little interruption of your studies," &c. &c. "The province of Criticism they are desirous to assign to the Commentator on Virgil."* His first paper, I believe, is No. 49, 24 April, 1753, containing "a Parallel between ancient and modern learning." His communications are undoubtedly the best of the whole work; and are written with an extent of erudition, a force of thought, and a purity, elegance, and vigour of language, which demand very high praise.

He now planned to unite in a volume, and publish "Select Epistles of Angelus Politianus, Desiderius Erasmus, Hugo Grotius, and others," a part of a design for a History of the Revival of Learning, which had also been agitated by his brother, and his friend Collins; but which unfortunately none of them executed.

In 1754 he obtained the living of Tunworth, near Wynslade; and in 1755 was elected second Master of Winchester school.

In 1756 he published the first volume of his "Essay on the genius and writings of Pope:" "A book," says the supercilious Johnson, "which teaches how the brow of criticism may be smoothed, and how she may be enabled, with all her severity, to attract and to delight;" but which, as it counteracted the stream of fashion, and opposed long received prejudices, did not meet with unquali-

fied approbation. He did not put his name to it, nor did he communicate the information to many of his literary friends; but it was immediately known to be his. Richardson, I think, calls it an amusing piece of literary gossip. Richardson, though a genius, was not a man of literature; or he never could have called it "gossip." The critical observations are almost always just, original, and happily expressed; and discover a variety of learning, and an activity of mind, which are entitled to admiration. It is true that his method is often abrupt and desultory; but it is dullness, or ignorance, alone, which mistakes formality of arrangement, and the imposition of a philosophic manner, for depth of thought, and novelty of instruction.

The essay drew forth, in due time, Ruffhead's *Life of Pope*, a poor jejune performance, written with all the sterility and narrowness of a Special Pleader.

In 1766 Dr. Warton succeeded to the Head-Mastership of Winchester school. In 1772 he lost his first wife. About this time he became a member of the literary club in London. In Dec. 1773, he remarried Miss Nicholas. In 1782, he obtained from Bishop Lowth a prebend of St. Paul's, and the living of Chorley, in Hertfordshire; which last he exchanged for that of Wickham, in Hants.

In this last year, 1782, he gave the world the second volume of his "Essay on Pope," of which the publication had been retarded by motives of a delicate and laudable nature.

In 1786 he suffered a most severe affliction in the loss of his second son, the Rev. Thomas Warton, Fellow of New College, Oxford, a young man of high talents

* Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, I. 224.

and acquirements, and four years afterwards he lost his beloved brother, with whom he had always enjoyed a mutuality of affections and studies, of a very uncommon kind.

In 1798 he obtained, through the interest of Lord Shannon, a prebend of Winchester cathedral. He soon after obtained the Rectory of Easton, which he exchanged for that of Upham.

Being now at the age of 71, he resigned his school on 23 July 1799, and retired to his Rectory of Wickham, "carrying with him the love, admiration, and esteem of the whole Wykehamical society."

"That ardent mind," says Mr. Wooll, "which had so eminently distinguished the exercise of his publick duties, did not desert him in the hours of leisure and retirement; for inactivity was foreign to his nature. His parsonage, his farm, his garden, were cultivated and adorned with the eagerness and taste of undiminished youth; whilst the beauties of the surrounding forest scenery, and the interesting grandeur of the neighbouring shore, were enjoyed by him with an enthusiasm innate in his very being. His lively sallies of playful wit, his rich store of literary anecdote, and the polished and habitual ease, with which he imperceptibly entered into the various ideas and pursuits of men in different situations, and endowed with educations totally opposite, rendered him an acquaintance both profitable and amusing; whilst his unaffected piety and unbounded charity, stamped him a pastor adored by his parishioners. Difficult indeed would it be to decide, whether he shone in a degree less in this social character, than in the closet of criticism, or the chair of instruction."

He did not however sink into literary idleness. In 1797 he edited the works of Pope in 9 vols. 8vo. The notes to this edition, which necessarily include the greatest part of his celebrated *Essay*, are highly entertaining and instructive. But Dr. Warton was severely, and, it may be added, illiberally, attacked for inserting one or two somewhat indecent pieces in this edition, which had hitherto been excluded from his collected works. The most harsh of these attacks came from the author of the *Pursuits of Literature*: something, no doubt, must be deducted from the violence of one, whose professed object was satire; but the grey hairs and past services of Warton ought to have protected him from excessive rudeness; and these over-nice criticks might, with a proper regard to consistency, have demanded the exclusion of several other works of Pope. It must not be concealed, however, that Beattie agreed in some degree with these censurers. "I have just seen," says he, "a new edition by Dr. Joseph Warton, of the works of Pope. It is fuller than Warburton's; but you will not think it better, when I tell you, that all Pope's obscenities, which Warburton was careful to omit, are carefully preserved by Warton, who also seems to have a great favour for infidel writers, particularly Voltaire. The book is well printed, but has no cuts, except a curious caricature of Pope's person, and an elegant profile of his head."*

Warton was not however deterred by the blame he thus suffered, from entering upon an edition of Dryden; which, alas! he did

* Forbes, II. 320.

not live to finish ; though he left two volumes ready for the press. This however is the less to be regretted as a similar undertaking is now in the hands of Mr. Walter Scott.

He died 23 Feb. 1800, æt. 78, leaving behind him a widow ; one son, Rev. John Warton ; and three daughters ; of whom only the youngest was by the last wife.

Such are the outlines of Dr. Warton's life ; in which I have not confined myself to Mr. Wooll's Memoir, having inserted a few trifling notices from personal knowledge. I cannot here transcribe at length the delineation of his moral and literary character, with which his biographer concludes the present publication : but in the brief observations I shall make with candour, yet with frankness, my opinion both of that, and of the success with which Mr. Wooll has executed his task, will appear.

Let me own then, that the volume now presented to the world, in some respects, does not quite answer my expectations. The life itself, considering it comes from one, who was a native of Winchester, who was brought up under Dr. Warton, and who seems to have had the advantage of all the family papers, is rather too sparing, not merely of incident, which literary men seldom supply, but of remarks, opinions, anecdotes, habits of study, and pictures of mind. In truth a great deal of what it tells, was known before. It is written with much talent, and elegance ; and every where exhibits the scholar and the man of virtuous sentiment. But perhaps the important duties of Mr. Wooll's station have not given him time to fill his mind with all, which probably may be called the idlenesses of modern literature, but which

are yet necessary to give a rich and lively interest to the memoirs of a modern author ; more especially of one, whose own mind abounded in that kind of knowledge.

In the next place, the correspondence which Warton himself left for publication, and which therefore, as it was well known how long and how widely he had been connected with persons of genius, excited the strongest curiosity, is, for the most part, slight and unimportant. It is true, the letters are, every one of them, those of eminent people : but scarce any one written with any effort ; or upon interesting subjects. What can have become of the letters of the Wartons themselves ? Or did they find no time, or no talent for epistolary exertion ? For here are, I think, only sixteen of Dr. Warton ; and only two of T. Warton. A few of them have nothing to do with either of the Wartons. Two or three of Dr. Johnson are interesting, as they relate to Collins, the poet.

—
*Dr. Johnson to Dr. Warton,
March 8, 1754.*

***. "How little can we venture to exult in any intellectual powers, or literary attainments, when we consider the condition of poor Collins ! I knew him a few years ago, full of hopes and full of projects, versed in many languages, high in fancy, and strong in retention. This busy and forcible mind is now under the government of those who lately would not have been able to comprehend the least and most narrow of its designs. What do you hear of him ? Are there hopes of his recovery ? Or is he to pass the remainder of his life in misery and degradation ? Perhaps with complete consciousness of his calamity."

Again, Dec. 24, 1754. ***
 "Poor dear Collins! Let me know, whether you think it would give him pleasure, if I should write to him. I have often been near his state; and therefore have it in great commiseration."

Again, April 15, 1756. ***
 "What becomes of poor dear Collins? I wrote him a letter, which he never answered. I suppose writing is very troublesome to him. That man is no common loss. The moralists all talk of the uncertainty of fortune; and the transitoriness of beauty; but it is yet more dreadful to consider, that the powers of the mind are equally liable to change; that understanding may make its appearance, and depart; that it may blaze and expire!"

Collins died in this very year 1756. It is singular that, after Dr. Johnson had written about him with such ardent and eloquent affection, he could at a long subsequent period, when time generally meliorates the love of departed friends, and memory aggrandizes their images, speak of him with such splenetick and degrading criticism in his "Lives of the poets." Those lives, especially of his cotemporaries, powerful as they often are, have gone further towards the suppression of rising genius, than any book our language has produced. They flatter the prejudices of dull men, and the envy of those who love not literary pursuits; and on this account, in addition to the wonderful force with which they are composed, have obtained a dangerous popularity, which has given a full effect to their poison.

The next best letter, is one, and indeed the only one, by Mrs. Montagu, whose correspondence always shines

velut inter ignes
 Luna minores,
 in whatever work it appears.

—
Mrs. Montagu, to Dr. Warton,
 17 Sept. 1782.

***. "By opening to us the original and genuine books of the inspired poets, and distinguishing too what is really divine in them, you lead us back to true taste. Criticks that demand an ignorant submission, and implicit faith in their infallibility of judgment, or the councils of learned academies, passing degrees as arbitrary, could never establish a rational devotion to the muses, or mark those boundaries, which are rather guides than restraints. By the candour and impartiality, with which you examine and decide on the merits of the ancients and moderns, we are all informed and instructed; and I will confess I feel myself inexpressibly delighted with the praises you give to the instructor of my early youth, Dr. Young, and the friends of my maturer age, Lord Lyttelton and Mr. West. Having ever considered the friendship of these excellent persons as the greatest honour of my life, and endeavouring hourly to set before me their precepts, and their examples, I could not but be highly gratified by seeing you place a guard of laurel round their tombs, which will secure them from any mischievous impressions, envy may attempt to make. I do not love the wolf and the tiger, who assail the living passenger; but most of all beasts I abhor the vampire, who violates the tomb, profanes the sepulchre, and sucks the blood of sleeping men—cowardly, cruel, ungenerous, monster! You and your brother are criticks of another disposition; too superiour to be jealous, too good to be severe, you

give encouragement to living authors, protection to the memories of those of former times; and instead of destroying monuments, you bestow them. I have often thought, with delighted gratitude, that many centuries after my little *Essay on Shakespeare* is lost and forgotten, the mention made of it in the *History of English Poetry*, the *Essay on Pope*, and Mr. Harris's *Pliological Enquiries*, will not only preserve it from oblivion, but will present it to opinion with much greater advantages than it originally appeared with. These reflections afford some of the happiest moments to

"Yours, &c. &c.

"ELIZ. MONTAGU."

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To the juvenile poetry of Dr. Warton, which is here republished, scarce any thing new is added. Perhaps I may think that Mr. Wooll has rated his powers in this way, if we judge from these remains, a little too high; though there are some striking and appropriate traits in his delineation of them. Yet I must admit that "The Enthusiast, or Lover of Nature," written at the age of 18, is a rich and beautiful descriptive poem, and I will indulge no hyper-criticisms upon it. The Odes it is impossible to avoid comparing with those of his friend and rival, Collins, which were published in the same year, at the same age; and it is equally impossible to be blind to their striking inferiority. The Ode to *Fancy* has much merit; but it seems to me to want originality; and to be more an effort of memory, than of original and predominant genius. The finest lines, consisting of 28, which begin at verse 59, were inserted subsequent to the first edition, a circumstance not noted by Mr. Wooll. The Ode to *Content*, (not in the first

edition) in the same metre as Collins's Ode to *Evening*, has great merit; but here again we are unfortunately too strongly reminded of its exquisite rival.* Warton has also an Ode to *Evening*, in which are some good stanzas. "The Dying Indian;" and more particularly "The Revenge of America," are very fine; but the latter is too short for such a subject, and ends too abruptly. On the whole, I cannot honestly subscribe to Mr. Wooll, where he says: "There breathes through his poetry a genuinely spirited invention, a fervour which can alone be produced by an highly-inspired mind; and which, it is to be presumed, fairly ranks him amidst what he himself properly terms, "the makers and inventors;" that is, the "real poets." There seems to be wanting these original and predominant impressions, that peculiarity of character, which always accompany high genius, and which are exhibited in the poetry both of his brother Thomas, and his cotemporary Beattie.

This opinion, if just, will not detract from Dr. Warton's critical talents. The power which feels, and the power which originates poetry, are totally distinct. The former no writer seems to have

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* Dr. Warton, in a note to Milton's Translation of the 5th Ode, Lib. i. of Horace, in his brother's edition of that poet, says: "In this measure, my friend and school-fellow, Mr. William Collins, wrote his admired Ode to *Evening*; and I know he had a design of writing many more Odes without rhyme." T. Warton goes on to say, that "Dr. I. Warton might have added, that his own Ode to *Evening* was written before that of his friend Collins; as was a poem of his, entitled "The Assembly of the Passions;" before Collins's favourite Ode on that subject." Mr. Wooll has inserted a prose sketch on this subject; but no poem.

possessed with more exquisite precision, than Dr. Warton; and I do not mean to deny that he possessed the latter in a considerable degree: I only say that his powers of execution do not seem to have been equal to his taste.

But Dr. Warton's fame does not rest upon his poetry. As a critic in polite literature he stands in the foremost ranks. And Mr. Wooll, who being educated under him had the best opportunity of forming a just opinion, has delineated his character as a teacher with the highest and most discriminate praise. His vivacity, his benevolence, and his amiable temper, and moral excellencies have long been known; and are celebrated by his biographer with a fond admiration. But I must say, that Mr.

Wooll, in his dread of "descending to the minutiae of daily habits," has not left us a portrait sufficiently distinct. Nor has he given us any sufficiently bold touches, such as we had a right to expect in the life of one of the Wartons; while, unfortunately, here are scarce any original letters to supply the deficiency. I had hoped to have found materials for an interesting and energetick character; but, what Mr. Wooll has omitted, it would be rash for a stranger to attempt.

Mr. Wooll however promises another volume, and tho' I cannot hope that my suggestions will have any influence with him, yet perhaps some one of more authority may induce him to favour the publick with a supplementary account.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTER.

INTERESTING ACCOUNT OF THE DESTRUCTION OF SEVERAL VILLAGES
IN THE CANTON OF SCHWEITZ.

Geneva, Sept. 26th, 1806.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

WE have at length finished the tour of Switzerland, and add two more to the ten thousands, who have seen and admired before us. Mr. ***** has been my companion ever since we reluctantly parted with ***** at Rotterdam (13th of Aug.); and as he has a taste for the picturesque, and I have pretty good eyes, we have seen and enjoyed as much, as other galloping travellers. You, I know, are rather curious in geography; and if you are at leisure to pore over a large map of Switzerland, you will have it in your power to trace your friend's route through this interesting country.

After a satisfactory journey up the Rhine, from Rotterdam through Utrecht, Nimeguen, Cleves, Cologne, Coblenz, Mayente, Worms, Strasburg, and Colmar, we entered Switzerland at *Basle* the 5th of September. For the sake of seeing the famous *chute du Rhin* we went fifty miles out of our way as far as *Schaffhausen*, passing through a part of the *Brisgau*, once belonging to the humbled house of Austria, but now given to the Prince of Baden. From *Schaffhausen* we travelled to *Zurich*, in my estimation the most eligible spot in Switzerland; thence we crossed mount *Albis* on our way to *Lucerne*, by a road almost too difficult for carriages. From *Lucerne* we sent our voiture

empty to Berne, while we prepared for our excursion into the mountains. We began by crossing the lake of Lucerne to *Russnacht*, thence over a strip of land to *Imisee* on the lake of Zug; thence to *Art* at its southern extremity, and thence along the small lake of *Lowertz* to *Bölnner*, where we again embarked for *Altorf*. In this day's tour we were in three of the small cantons, Zug, Schwitz, and Uri. At *Altorf* properly commenced our passage into the mountains, along the road which leads over the St. Gothard into Italy. The path lies near the banks of the *Reuss*, which it frequently crosses, especially by the famous *Pont du Diable*. This road into Italy is passable only by mules and pedestrians, to which latter class we had the honour for three days to belong. We travelled on foot as far as *Hospital*, a small village in the valley of *Urseren*, at the foot of St. Gothard. Here we took mules to carry us over the difficult passes of the *Furea* and the *Grimsel*, two of the vast chain of Alps which laid between us and Berne. The 14th September we crossed the *Furea*, being obliged to descend from our mules, and wade through snow above our knees, because the customary path was entirely concealed. We descended then to the source of the *Rhone*, and to the village of *Oberystelen* in the Haut Valais, from which point we began to ascend the *Grimsel*. If you have a good map, you will see that we here made a very devious track, because the shortest route, which leads over the *Mayenwund*, was rendered impassable by the snow. At five o'clock we reached the summit of the *Grimsel*, 7000 feet above the sea, and the highest point of our peregrinations; we slept this night in what is called

the *Hospice* of the *Grimsel*. The next day we descended to *Meyringen* and left our mules, thence across the lakes of *Brienze* and *Thun* to *Thun*, where we took a carriage for *Berne*. At this capital we found our empty voiture, and our trunks safe, and set off the next day for *Lausanne*. We passed through *Morat*, *Avenches*, *Payerne*, and *Moudon*, all Roman cities and full of antiquities, and arrived the 19th at *Lausanne*, which was totally uninteresting to us, except as the favourite residence of *Gibbon*. The next day we travelled over one of the most superb *chaussées* in the world to *Geneva*. Nothing remained now but to visit *Chamouni* and the glaciers of *Mont Blanc*, which by the blessing of heaven we have safely accomplished in four days, and are ready to set off for *Paris* tomorrow morning. From this sketch of our wanderings, you will see that we have made a pretty complete tour through Switzerland, by travelling less, probably, than four hundred miles.

Excuse the meagre aspect of this itinerary. You know it would be absurd to attempt to give in a letter a proper journal of one's travels; and to pretend to describe any spot particularly interesting would be only to repeat what you may easily find in books. All I mean by this sketch is to let you know where your friend has been; perhaps too it may refresh for a little while your geographical recollection.

There is an event, however, which happened just before our arrival in Switzerland, of which no particular account may have yet reached America, and which I think cannot be uninteresting, especially to those of our friends who have visited this charming country. Indeed it is too disastrous

to be related or read with indifference.

If you have a large map of Switzerland, I beg of you to look for a spot in the canton of Schweitz, situated between the lakes of Zug and Lowertz on two sides, and the mountains of Rigi and Rossberg on the others. Here, but three weeks ago, was one of the most delightfully fertile vallies of all Switzerland; green, and luxuriant, adorned with several little villages, full of secure and happy farmers. Now three of these villages are forever effaced from the earth, and a broad waste of ruins, burying alive fourteen hundred peasants, overspreads the valley of Lowertz.

About 5 o'clock in the evening of the *third of September* a large projection of the mountain of Rossberg, on the north east, gave way, and precipitated itself into this valley; and in less than four minutes completely overwhelmed the three villages of *Goldau*, *Busingen*, and *Rathlen*, with a part of *Lowertz* and *Oberart*. The torrent of earth and stones was far more rapid than that of lava, and its effects as resistless and as terrible. The mountain in its descent carried trees, rocks, houses, every thing before it. The mass spread in every direction, so as to bury completely a space of charming country, *more than three miles square*. The force of the earth must have been prodigious, since it not only spread over the hollow of the valley, but even ascended far up the opposite side of the Rigi. The quantity of earth, too, is enormous, since it has left a considerable hill in what was before the centre of the vale. A portion of the falling mass rolled into the lake of Lowertz, and it is calculated that a fifth part is filled up. On a minute map

you will see two little islands marked in this lake, which have been admired for their picturesqueness. One of them is famous for the residence of two hermits, and the other for the remains of an ancient chateau, once belonging to the house of Hapsburg. So large a body of water was raised and pushed forward by the falling of such a mass into the lake, that the two islands, and the whole village of Seven, at the southern extremity, were, for a time, completely submerged by the passing of the swell. A large house in this village was lifted off its foundations and carried half a mile beyond its place. The hermits were absent on a pilgrimage to the abbey of Einsiedeln.

The disastrous consequences of this event extend further than the loss of such a number of inhabitants in a canton of little population. A fertile plain is at once converted into a barren tract of rocks and calcareous earth, and the former marks and boundaries of property obliterated. The main road from Art to Schweitz is completely filled up, so that another must be opened with great labour over the Rigi. The former channel of a large stream is choked up, and its course altered; and as the outlets and passage of large bodies of water must be affected by the filling up of such a portion of the lake, the neighbouring villages are still trembling with apprehension of some remote consequences, against which they know not how to provide. Several hundred men have been employed in opening passages for the stagnant waters, in forming a new road for foot passengers along the Rigi, and in exploring the ruins. The different cantons have contributed to the relief of the suffering canton of Schweitz, and every head is at

work to contrive means to prevent further disasters.

The number of inhabitants buried alive under the ruins of this mountain, is scarcely less than fifteen hundred. Some even estimate it as high as two thousand. Of these, a woman and two children have been found alive, after having been several days under ground. They affirm that while they were thus entombed, they heard the cries of poor creatures who were perishing around them, for want of that succour which they were so happy as to receive. Indeed it is the opinion of many well informed people, that a large number might still be recovered; and a writer in the *Publiciste* goes so far as to blame the inactivity of the neighbouring inhabitants; and quotes many well-attested facts to prove that persons have lived a long time, buried under snow and earth. This at least is probable in the present case, that many houses, exposed to a lighter weight than others, may have been merely a little crushed, while the lower story, which in this part of Switzerland is frequently of stone, may have remained firm, and thus not a few of the inhabitants escaped unhurt. The consternation into which the neighbouring towns of Art and Schweitz were thrown, appears indeed to have left them incapable of contriving and executing those labours which an enlightened compassion would dictate.

The mountain of Rossberg, as well as the Rigi, and other mountains in its vicinity, are composed of a kind of brittle calcareous earth, and pudding stone, or aggregated rocks. Such a prodigious mass as that which fell, would easily crumble by its own weight, and spread over a wide surface. The bed of the mountain, from which

the desolation came, is a plane inclined from north to south. Its appearance, as it is now laid bare, would lead one to suppose that the mass, when first moved from its base, slid for some distance before it precipitated itself into the valley. The height of the Spitsberg (the name of the projection which fell) above the lake and valley of Lowertz, was little less than two thousand feet. The composition of the chain of the Rigi, of which the Rossberg makes a part, has always been an obstacle in the way of those system makers, who have built their hypotheses upon the structure of the Alps. It has nothing granitic in its whole mass, and though nearly six thousand feet above the sea, is green and even fertile to its summit. It is composed of nothing but earth and stone, combined in rude masses. It is also remarkable that the strata of which it is composed, are distinctly inclined from the north toward the south, a character which is common to all rocks of this kind through the whole range of Alps, as well as to the greater part of calcareous, schistous, and pyritick rocks, and also to the whole chain of the Jura.

It was about a week after the fall of the mountain, that our route through Switzerland led us to visit this scene of desolation; and never can I forget the succession of melancholy views, which presented themselves to our curiosity. In our way to it, we landed at Art, a town situated at the southern extremity of the lake of Zug; and we skirted along the western boundary of the ruins, by the side of Mount Rigi, toward the lake of Lowertz. From various points on our passage, we had complete views of such a scene of destruction, as no words can adequately describe.

Picture to yourself a rude and mingled mass of earth and stones, bristled with the shattered parts of wooden cottages, and with thousands of heavy trees, torn up by the roots, and projecting in every direction. In one part you might see a range of peasants' huts, which the torrent of earth had reached with just force enough to overthrow and tear in pieces, but without bringing soil enough to cover them. In another were mills broken in pieces by huge rocks, transported from the top of the mountain, which fell, and carried high up the opposite side of the Rigi. Large pools of water had formed themselves in different parts of the ruins, and many little streams, whose usual channels had been filled up, were bursting out in various places. Birds of prey, attracted by the smell of dead bodies, were hovering all about the valley. But the general impression made upon us by the sight of such an extent of desolation, connected, too, with the idea that hundreds of wretched creatures were at that moment alive, buried under a mass of earth, and inaccessible to the cries and labours of their friends, was too horrible to be described or understood. As we travelled along the borders of the chaos of ruined buildings, a poor peasant, wearing a countenance ghastly with woe, came up to us to beg a piece of money. He had three children buried in the ruins of a cottage, which he was endeavouring to clear away. A little further on, we came to an elevated spot, which overlooked the whole scene. Here we found a painter seated on a rock, and busy in sketching its horrors. He had chosen a most favourable point. Before him, at the distance of more than a league, rose the Rossberg, from whose bare side had rushed

the destroyer of all this life and beauty. On his right was the lake of Lowertz, partly filled with the earth of the mountain. On the banks of this lake was all that remained of the town of Lowertz. Its church was demolished; but the tower yet stood amid the ruins, shattered, but not thrown down. The figure, which animated this part of the drawing, were a few miserable peasants, left to grope among the wrecks of one half their village. The foreground of the picture was a wide desolate sweep of earth and stones, relieved by the shattered roof of a neighbouring cottage. On the left hand spread the blue and tranquil surface of the lake of Zug, on the margin of which yet stands the pleasant village of Art, almost in contact with the ruins, and trembling even in its preservation.

We proceeded, in our descent, along the side of the Rigi, toward the half-buried village of Lowertz. Here we saw the poor curate, who is said to have been a spectator of the fall of the mountain. He saw the torrent of earth rushing toward his village, overwhelming half his people, and stopping just before his door! What a situation! He appeared, as we passed, to be superintending the labours of some of the survivors, who were exploring the ruins of the place. A number of new made graves, marked with a plain pine cross, showed where a few of the wretched victims of this catastrophe had just been interred.

Our course lay along the borders of the enchanting lake of Lowertz. The appearance of the slopes, on the eastern and southern sides, told us what the valley of Goldau was a few days since, smiling with varied vegetation, gay with villages and cottages, and bright with promises of autumnal plenty. The

shores of this lake were covered with ruins of huts, with hay, with furniture and clothes, which the vast swell of its waters had lodged on the banks. As we were walking mournfully along toward Schweitz, we met with the dead body of a woman, which had been just found. It was stretched out on a board, and barely covered with a white cloth. Two men, preceded by a priest, were carrying it to a more decent burial. We hoped that this sight would have concluded the horrors of this day's scenery, and that we should soon escape from every painful vestige of the calamity of Schweitz. But we continued to find relics of ruined buildings for a league along the whole extent of the lake; and a little beyond the two islands, mentioned above, we saw, lying on the shore, the stiff body of a peasant, which had been washed up by the waves, and which two men were examining, to ascertain where he belonged. Our guide instantly knew it to be one of the inhabitants of Goldau. But I will mention no more particulars. Some perhaps that have been related to me are not credible, and others which are credible are too painful.

The immediate cause of this calamitous event is not yet sufficiently ascertained and probably never will be. The fall of parts of hills is not uncommon; and in Switzerland especially there are several instances recorded of the descent of large masses of earth and stones. But so sudden and extensive a ruin as this was, perhaps, never produced by the fall of a mountain. It can be com-

pared only to the destruction made by the tremendous eruptions of Etna and Vesuvius. Many persons suppose that the long and copious rains, which they have lately had in this part of Switzerland, may have swelled the mountains, in the Rossberg sufficiently to push this part of the mountain off its inclined base. But we saw no marks of streams issuing from any part of the bed which is laid bare. Perhaps the consistency of the earth in the interior of the mountain was so much altered by the moisture which penetrated into it, that the projection of the Spitzberg was no longer held by a sufficiently strong cohesion, and its own weight carried it over. Perhaps as the earth is calcareous, a kind of fermentation took place sufficient to loosen its foundations. But there is no end to conjectures. The mountain has fallen and the villages are no more.

I cannot but reflect upon my weakness in complaining of our long delay at Strasburg. If we had not been detained there ten days, waiting for our passports, we should have been in Switzerland the 3d of September, probably in the vicinity of the lake of Lowertz—perhaps under the ruins of Goldau. Several travellers, or rather strangers, were destroyed; but whether they were there on business or for pleasure, I know not. Among them are several respectable inhabitants of Berne, and a young lady of fine accomplishments and amiable character, whose loss is much lamented. My dear friend, bless God that we are alive and enjoying so many comforts.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 17.

πες ελεγκτικος κακοτης.

PLUTARCH.

Curiosus nemo est, quin sit malevolus.

PLAUTUS.

Every inquisitive person is malicious.

AMONG those smaller offences against society, that hold an intermediate rank between folly and vice, I know of no one, more despicable in itself, or more vexatious to others, than that inquisitive turn of mind, which excites the restless curiosity of the frivolous and impertinent, to pry into the affairs of their neighbours. Since no man, as some one observes, is respectable in the eyes of his *valet de chambre*, so no man would wish to have the little arrangements of his domestic economy scrutinized by the eye, and misrepresented by the tongue of the officious and malignant, around the scandalous tea-tables of male and female gossips.

A man's house is his castle; and whatever passes within its walls should be considered as sacred as the mysteries of Eleusis. Though a good man will say or do nothing, at any time, for which he may have reason to blush, yet, in the unguarded confidence of social conversation, he may discuss the characters of men, and the tendency of measures, in a manner, that might incur the resentment of the parties concerned, should it reach their ears. Whoever, therefore, betrays conversation of this kind, may create a serious misunderstanding between worthier men than himself; and should he escape the chastisement of the spirited, yet will he be shunned, in future, as a dangerous companion, by the prudent.

But though this treachery to social confidence may be productive of serious consequences, yet, as it often proceeds rather from want of consideration, than from premeditated mischief, so is it commonly less vexatious, than the prying inquisitiveness of wanton curiosity. The one may occasionally lead you into a scrape, but the other obliges you to be perpetually on your guard. The former may cause you uneasiness for a day, but the latter may harrass you during the whole course of your life.

Curio is acquainted with the circumstances of almost every man in town; can tell precisely how many pounds of coffee *Mr. Tradewell* expects from abroad, and the exact amount of *Mr. Hoardwell's* property, in farms, wharves, houses, and bank-stock, at home. From this kind of knowledge, he has been enabled to predict with accuracy the moment of a failure; and hence, at one time, acquired a distinguished character for sagacity and penetration. This, with a face of wisdom, which concealed the meanness of his intellectual powers, gave him, at one time, considerable importance in the eyes of politicians. But, by his tergiversation, he soon lost credit with both parties, as he had deserved the confidence of neither. Admiration gradually degenerated into contempt; and he now lives, neglected and despised, a bankrupt in property and in fame, with the

reputation of a meddler in the affairs of others, whilst he neglected his own, of a Jew without riches, and of a politician without principles.

Miss *Prywell* is a maiden lady, unhappily tormented with an insatiable thirst, to know every event that takes place, in the parlour and kitchen of her neighbours. As the habitable part of her house unluckily does not face the street, she is obliged to have recourse to a small closet, with a single window, where she gratifies her favourite passion, by watching the important occurrences of the day. There she sits, in all the delightful agony of expectation, to observe, who goes in or out of the houses within her view; and sometimes, by the aid of a pocket telescope, is fortunate enough to identify an individual, amidst the company of a neighbour's parlour. Should any domestick duty call her off from this laudable occupation, *Betty* is immediately summoned to relieve guard, with strict injunctions to have all her eyes about her, and to suffer no individual, male or female, to pass unobserved. Should a coach stop within *eye-shot* of Miss *Prywell*, the willing *Betty*, who has caught the inquisitive infection from her mistress, is instantly dispatched for intelligence... Here, *Betty, Betty*, run over to Mr. B.'s, and see who is in that coach. And, *Betty*, ask the girls in the kitchen, what gentleman, in a blue, surtout, dined there yesterday. And, *Betty*, be sure, and observe, what they have for dinner to-day.' Away runs *Betty*, and, after due time, returns almost breathless, with the important intelligence, which she pours circumstantially into the 'greedy ear' of her delighted mistress.

Miss *Prywell* is as well, and sometimes better, acquainted with

the circumstances of her neighbours, than they are themselves. She knows the exact cost of the furniture in each parlour, and can enumerate, with precision, every article in the kitchen. Even the contents of your servant's market-basket cannot escape the vigilance of this argus-eyed lady, and she can generally ascertain the arrangement for the dinner of the day, as accurately as those who provide it.

Miss *Prywell* delights in reporting the important facts, of which, at the expense of so much time and trouble, she has made herself mistress. But as the motto of my paper observes that, 'every inquisitive person is malicious,' she always adorns her narrative with some poetical embellishment, not strictly conformable with the truth of authentick history. Miss *Prywell* is very lively and very silly, and affords a striking proof, how much knowledge may be acquired, even by persons of the meanest capacity, if they will but apply the whole force of their faculties to its acquisition.

There are others, who sometimes mix with the first circles, who run to one house to collect intelligence, and to another to report it; who, with despicable talents, sometimes create considerable mischief, since their very silliness screens them from suspicion. Some one compares these communicative people to leaden pipes, which serve to convey fresh streams of intelligence from house to house. This basest of metal answers for this servile office, whilst we reserve gold and silver for more valuable employments.

In a word, there cannot be a more despicable turn of mind, than this frivolous curiosity about trifles, and restless anxiety to know what

does not concern you, and which, after all, cannot be worth knowing. Relinquish the occupation then, those, whom it best becomes; taffing gossips, envious old bachelors, and disappointed old maids.

INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY.

[The Editors are happy to adorn their pages with the following learned and eloquent disquisition on a great constitutional question. It was written some years previous to the act of June 20, 1806, increasing the salaries of the judges, and placing them on a permanent and honourable establishment. But in a government, like our own, dependent in no small degree on the public opinion, it is never unseasonable to recur to the fundamental principles of the constitution: and we invite the writer to furnish us with other disquisitions on constitutional and juridical subjects. We fully subscribe to his reasoning in this communication, and do not hesitate to express our firm belief, that the people of this commonwealth certainly intended, at the adoption of the constitution, that the judicial department should be an independent branch of the government, and that the judges should be as free, both by the tenure of their office, and by the nature and degree of their compensation, as is consistent with the human condition. We take this opportunity to observe, that our Miscellany is intended, not only for a repository of taste and imagination, but that the learned of our country, in all arts and sciences, are solicited to give immortality to its pages by a liberal communication of their speculations.]

For the Anthology.

THE QUESTION TOUCHING THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT, AS WELL WITH RESPECT TO THEIR SALARIES, AS TO THE TENURE OF THEIR OFFICE, CONSIDERED ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL GROUNDS.

AND, first, as to their salaries. On this point the 29th art. of the Declaration of Rights says, "*The Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court should have honourable salaries, ascertained and ESTABLISHED by standing laws.*" Accordingly we find—

The first act of the legislature, (February 13, 1801) granting salaries to the judges, after the constitution came into operation, made them permanent, that is, without limitation of time. But when their permanent salaries were deemed inadequate to their increased services, subsequent legislatures have made annual or

temporary additions to them; thereby so far destroying the independence of the Supreme Judicial Department. The right of the legislature to make such grants to the judges being always called into question. By another act, (Feb. 27, 1790) which repealed the first, and made the *whole* of their salaries *permanent*, the judges were again restored to their constitutional independence.

But their state in this respect has since been changed; and when from the increase of their services, and from other causes, it was again deemed fit and reasonable to augment their salaries, the legis-

lature have had recourse to the same measure of making annual or temporary additions to the salaries granted and established by the act of Feb. 27, 1790. Thus again holding the judges dependent upon the will and pleasure of the legislature, as to a considerable portion of their salaries.

The late attempt to reinstate them on firm constitutional ground, by a bill reported to the house of representatives by their committee, having failed, it has become more expedient than ever to give the question a thorough consideration.

In favour of temporary grants it has been said, the words, "*ascertained and established by standing laws,*" may be satisfied by a grant of salaries of a *fixed value*, by any law, though temporary; because a temporary law is a standing law during its continuance, as much as a law without limitation of time, or a perpetual law, which may be repealed at any time. It is conceived, the legislature may have proceeded upon such ground in making a portion of the judges' salaries to depend upon their temporary grants, or, in other words, upon their mere will and pleasure, whether *such* portion thereof shall be continued by another law, when the last temporary grant shall have expired by lapse of time. But the term "*established*" cannot be so satisfied. For to establish, according to the best lexicographers, is "*to settle firmly, to fix unalterably.*" The effect is essentially different; the one places the judges in a state of dependence, the other in a state of independence conformably to the duties imposed upon them by the constitution, as well as its express declarations.

Besides, the meaning of the term "*established*" seems to be

cleared of all doubt in the 2 chap. sect. 1. art. 13, which declares "*PERMANENT and honourable salaries shall be established by law for the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court.*"

Some light may be thrown upon this question by adverting to the history of the judicial department of England, previous and subsequent to the revolution of 1688. Before that period, it is well known, that the commissions of the judges of Westminster Hall were generally "*durante bene placito,*" during the king's pleasure, and that they were likewise dependent upon him for their salaries. These were grievances deeply felt. And to rid the judges of that dependence upon the king, and the nation of the evils they had suffered under the undue influence of the crown over them, it was enacted by 12 & 13 W. 3. c. 2, "*That judges' commissions be made quamdiu se bene gesserint, and their salaries ascertained and ESTABLISHED.*"

The meaning of the term *established* in that act cannot now be doubtful, when it is an unquestionable fact, that their salaries have ever since the passing of that act (now more than a century) been considered as thereby fixed and secured to the judges, in such a manner as to leave them wholly independent of the king or crown in that particular.

Now, the terms made use of in the 29th art. of our Declaration of Rights being *precisely* the same, viz. "*The judges of the Supreme Judicial Court shall have honourable salaries ascertained and ESTABLISHED,*" it is presumed they were adopted for a similar purpose, and that they ought to receive the same construction in both cases or instruments. And as the judges

in England were thereby rendered independent of the crown with respect to their salaries, as well as their continuance in office, so the judges of the Supreme Judicial Court, by fair construction, are and ought to be, in virtue of our constitution, equally independent, in that respect, of the legislative department of our government.

That article indeed subjoins the words "*by standing laws.*" These surely cannot weaken the former, but if they operate at all, they can operate only to strengthen our construction, and so to explain them, as to banish every idea of temporary grants, in whole or in part.

Further, the abovementioned article provides, "*If it shall be found that any of the salaries so established, are INSUFFICIENT, they shall from time to time be ENLARGED, as the General Court shall think proper.*"

May it not be asked, why the General Court were authorised only to *enlarge* the salaries so established, unless the constitution intended the judges should be independent of the legislature, with respect to their salaries, when once granted? And why was it not left, as in the case of other officers, to the legislature to make such grants from time to time, as they should think fit, to *reduce*, as well as to *enlarge* them?

Is it then consistent with the freedom and independence of the judges contemplated, as I expect to shew, by the constitution, that the legislature should grant a portion of their salaries permanently, that is, without limitation of time, and when this portion is found to be insufficient, to enlarge it by annual or temporary grants?

Such, however, has been the state of dependence in which, if I

may be allowed the expression, the jealousy of the legislature (perhaps countenanced by the people themselves) has thought fit to hold this feeble and unprotected branch of our government.

But even this dependence of the judges upon the will of the legislature, for the continuance or the renewal of their temporary grants, when expired by the lapse of time, is not the worst of their present condition.

A recent instance (the first of the kind) of the removal of a Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, (Bradbury) by the Governour, with the consent of the Council, upon the address of both houses of the Legislature, because, *by the act of GOD*, he was rendered incapable of discharging the duties of his office; will change (if permitted to stand as a precedent) the tenure of the office, from an office during good behaviour, that is, an office for life, determinable on misbehaviour only, to an office at the will of those great branches of our government.

—Now,

Whether this state of dependence of the supreme judicial department is consonant to the constitution of the commonwealth, or established legal decisions upon offices holden during good behaviour, is the question remaining to be considered, and demands a deliberate consideration. The subject not only affects the interest of the judges, but, if the declarations of our constitution are to be taken as true, involves in it the highest and most important rights of every citizen.

On the ground of good behaviour a judge ought always to stand; and I still believe that to be strong, legal, and constitutional ground.

Legal ground, because an office,

during good behaviour, hath uniformly been adjudged an office for life, determinable on misbehaviour only.*

Constitutional ground, because the Declaration of Rights (art. 29) declares, "It is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty, property, and character, that there be an impartial interpretation of the laws, and administration of justice."—That "it is the right of every citizen to be tried by judges as free, impartial, and independent as the lot of humanity will admit."—That "it is therefore not only the best policy, but for the security of the rights of the people and of every

citizen, that the judges of the Supreme Judicial Court should hold their offices AS LONG AS THEY BEHAVE THEMSELVES WELL."—Again it is declared (chap. 3, art. 1) that, "all judicial officers shall hold their offices DURING GOOD BEHAVIOUR, excepting such concerning whom there is different provision made in this constitution."

And no different provision is therein made respecting the judges of the Supreme Judicial Court. The same article further declares, "the tenure that all judicial officers shall by law have in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commissions." †

* *Note, No. I.*

See the Case of Harcourt vs. Fox (1. Show. 516) in King's Bench, 5. W. & M. 1693 (about seven years before that statute). In which all the judges gave their opinions seriatim, That where an office is granted "to execute the same for so long time only as he shall well demean himself in the office," is an estate for life, determinable upon the misbehaviour of the officer. Justice Eyres asks, (522) Who will deny that to have been an estate for life?—And Justice Gregory says, (523) "If these words had been annexed to the grant of any other office in Westminster Hall, without all question the grantee had been an officer for life. The clerk of the peace being an officer relating to the execution of the law, his office must be governed by those rules that govern other officers of like nature. He should be removeable upon no other cause" (meaning than misbehaviour in his office).—Justice Dolbin says, (525) "If any office be granted to a man to enjoy so long as he shall behave himself well in it, no one will doubt but the grantee hath an estate for life in the office."

Lord Chief Justice Holt says, (531) The words themselves "for so long time only as he shall behave himself well in the office," in their natural and proper extent, do signify an estate for life. If the word *only* had been left out, then it had been so indefinite a limitation,

that no man, I think, would have doubted; for my part, I should not have made the least question, but that it was an estate for life. To encourage him (the officer) in the faithful execution of the office (534) they settle the estate, so as to put him out of fear of losing it for any thing but his own misbehaviour in it. And the word *only* he considers makes no difference. Holt adds, (535, 6) "The design of parliament was, that men should have places not to hold precariously, or determinable upon will and pleasure, but have a certain durable estate, that they might act in them without fear of losing them; we all know it, and our places as judges are so settled, ONLY DETERMINABLE UPON MISBEHAVIOUR."

This judgment was affirmed in the House of Lords. See 1. Ld. Raym. 161. See Note No. 3 throughout.

† *Note, No. II.*

Before our revolution, under the province charter, the judges were nominated and appointed by the governours, by and with the advice and consent of the council, and an entry thereof was made in the council books, and each judge had a commission in the king's name, under the province seal. But neither in the record of the nomination and appointment, nor in the commission was there any mention made of the estate the judge had in his office. Whether he was to hold the office during his good behaviour in it, or during pleasure only.

And the commission of a judge of the Supreme Judicial Court is, "to have and to hold the office, with all the powers, privileges, and emoluments to the same of right ascertaining, DURING GOOD BEHAVIOUR." Can words more clearly express the estate which a judge holds in his office?—Thus under the sanction of the constitution, of law, and of the publick faith, a judge of the Supreme Court may, I conceive, rightfully claim an estate in his office for life determinable, like all such estates, by his misbehaviour only. †

But I have understood the late removal was rested on a paragraph which immediately follows that last cited, viz. "Provided nevertheless, the Governour, with the consent of the Council, may remove them (judicial

The governour, who made the appointment, held his office during the pleasure of the king. A question arose which of those estates the judge had in his office. To do away all uncertainty of this kind, our constitution declares they shall hold their offices during good behaviour; and further, that the tenure, by which they hold their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commissions.

† Note, No. III.

During the reigns of the Stuarts, as well as before, some of the judges were appointed during good behaviour, and others during pleasure. When they were appointed during good behaviour, tho' the kings arbitrarily forbid their exercising their office and withheld their salaries, they were nevertheless considered as continuing in their office, even where the appointment of another had been made. "Sir John Walter, (says Sir Thos. Raymond) a man of profound learning and of great integrity and courage, was appointed lord chief baron by patent 1 Car. Quamdiu se bene gesserit, (during good behaviour,) being in the king's displeasure, and commanded that he should forbear the exercising his judicial place in court, never after exercised his place in court. And because he had that office quamdiu se bene gesserit, he would not leave his

officers) upon the address of both houses of the legislature.

This proviso is general; it points out no cause or ground of removal. Is it therefore to be so construed as to authorise the removal of a judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, without assigning any cause or ground of removal, or by assigning any cause or ground other than misbehaviour in the judge? This is the important question—and I think it must be answered in the negative—1st. Because it would otherwise depend upon the mere will and pleasure of the other branches of our government, whether a member of the Supreme Judicial Department should be removed from his office, and his estate therein vacated and annulled, without any default in himself.

place, nor surrender his patent, without a scire facias to shew what cause there was to determine his patent, or to forfeit it; so that he continued chief baron until the day of his death.—Cro. Car. 203. Justice Archer was removed by Char. II. from sitting in the court of Common Pleas. But the judge having his patent to be judge quamdiu se bene gesserit, refused to surrender his patent without a scire facias, and continued justice of the court, though prohibited to sit there, and in his place Sir William Ellis was sworn. See Sir Tho. Raym. Rep. 217. Rushworth says, "Mr. Sargeant Archer, (now living) notwithstanding his removal, still enjoys his patent, being quamdiu se bene gesserit, and receives a share in the profits of that court, as to fines, and other proceedings, by virtue of his said patent, and his name is used in all those fines, &c. as a judge of that court. Hence it would seem, the king or his cabinet, conscious that the words, during good behaviour in an office, gave a life estate in it, determinable only upon misbehaviour, and the removals being made arbitrarily, without any such cause, it was not thought expedient to bring a scire facias to annul the patent, but to punish learned and upright judges by withholding their salaries only, and forbidding their exercising the duties of their office.

2. Because it would be sticking to the *letter* of a single detached paragraph of the constitution, and violating an established rule of construction of every law, or instrument, viz. that every part shall have its operation, if by any possibility it can; and no part be rejected unnecessarily. *Ex antecedentibus & consequentibus fit optima interpretatio.*

3. Because it endangers that *impartial* interpretation of the laws, and administration of justice, which the constitution declares "*is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty, property, and character.*"

4. Because it is irreconcilable with the declared right of every citizen, to be tried by judges as free, impartial, and independent "*as the lot of humanity will admit.*"

5. Because it lays the Judicial Department prostrate before the legislative and executive departments; and destroys that barrier, which the constitution has erected between them and the citizen individually considered.

6. Because such a construction of this proviso is also repugnant to the express declarations, positive provision, and the manifest scope and design of the constitution to establish a Judicial Department, free, impartial, and independent, as well as against the clear legal tenure of the office as expressed (according to the requisition of the constitution) in the commissions of the judges, viz. "*to have and to hold the office, with all the powers, privileges, and emoluments to the same of right appertaining, DURING GOOD BEHAVIOUR.*"

7. Because, to give the proviso a construction which shall extend it to any other cause or ground of removal than misbehaviour in the judges, would be to make the con-

stitution declare they *shall* hold their offices during good behaviour, that is, shall have a freehold or life estate in them, but shall nevertheless be removable at the mere will and pleasure of the other branches of our government.—A language I am unable to reconcile.

Our constitution was drawn up by the most eminent lawyers, statesmen, and politicians of the commonwealth, who saw the propriety, who felt the necessity, of establishing that department, "*whose duty it is to decide on the life, liberty, property, and character of their fellow citizens,*" upon firm and independent ground: "to the end that our's should be a government of laws and not of men." They thoroughly comprehended the force and legal effect of the words "*during good behaviour,*" when they respect the tenure of an office. They were not unacquainted with the mischiefs and oppression endured by the people of England, which resulted from the dependence of the judges, both as to their salaries and their continuance in office, upon the will of the king.* They saw the judges and the people relieved from so dangerous and degrading a condition, by this single concise paragraph of the statute of William, "that judges' commis-

* *Note, No. IV.*

In the remonstrance presented to the king by the House of Commons, in 1641, they say in art. 38, "Judges have been put out of their places for refusing to do against their oaths and consciences: Others have been so awed; that they durst not do their duties, and the better to hold the rod over them, the clause *Quamdiu se bene gesserint, or during good behaviour,* was left out of their patents, and the clause, *Durante bene placito, or during pleasure,* inserted." See 2 Rapin's Hist. p. 392. Before this, in 1640, the House of Lords addressed the king on the same subject. 2 Mac. Hist. 440.

sions be made *during good behaviour*, and their salaries *ascertained and established.*" And they have adopted these very terms into our constitution. Can their design, then, be doubtful in doing this ?

The judges of England do not now rest even upon the salutary provision of that statute. For although they were thereby secured as to their salaries, and continuance in office, during their good behaviour : Yet on the demise of the crown, or, in plain English, on the death of the king, or within six months after their commissions (which run in the name of the king for the time being) ceased, and they were liable to be displaced by the new sovereign. Even this degree of dependence has been taken away.

"In March, 1761," says the British historian,* "the king (Geo. the 3d) proposed a step for securing the independency of the judges, which was justly admired as an eminent proof of his candour, moderation, and publick spirit. To the parliament he explained his purpose in the following manner :... "Upon granting new commissions to the judges, the present state of their offices fell naturally under consideration. In consequence of the act of Wm. 3d. their commissions have been made during their good behaviour ; but notwithstanding that wise provision, their offices have determined upon the demise of the crown, or at the expiration of six months afterwards, in every instance of that nature which has happened."

"I look," says the king, "upon the independency and uprightnes of the judges of the land, as essential to the impartial administration of justice, as one of the best secu-

rities to the rights and liberties of my loving subjects, and as most conducive to the honour of the crown ; and I come now to recommend this interesting object to the consideration of parliament, in order that such further provision may be made, for securing the judges in the enjoyment of their offices, during their good behaviour, *notwithstanding any such demise*, as shall be most expedient. I must desire of you, in particular, that I may be enabled to grant, and *establish* upon the judges, such salaries as I may think proper, so as to be absolutely secured to them, during the continuance of their commissions."

This was accordingly done by an act of parliament, "whereby," the historian adds, "the independency of the bench was secured, and the persons entrusted with the administration of justice, were effectually emancipated from all undue influence of the crown."

I have cited these proceedings more at large, because every one, who will take the trouble to compare them with the language of our constitution, will perceive they were under the view of its framers, and that they contemplated the same independency of the Judicial Department of the other branches of our government, which those proceedings did of the king. I cite them not as authorities, but for the purpose of explaining our own constitution, when it adopts similar terms and ideas.

What a noble spectacle do these proceedings exhibit to our view.— A monarch, voluntarily going into parliament, to request them to take from the crown one of its unquestionable prerogatives, because the exercise of it might possibly be productive of injustice and oppression to his subjects, by making the

* Cormick's Hist. Geo. 3d. ch. 1. § 27.

judges dependent upon the heir apparent for their continuance in office, after the death of the king?

If it be asked for what purpose the above proviso is introduced into the constitution, it may be answered first negatively, not to do away, and render null and void, other parts of it, the meaning of which is clear and certain.

To guard against abuses in the Judicial Department there are two modes provided in the constitution, in which a judge may be removed from his office—First, on conviction before the senate, on the impeachment of the house of representatives, for misconduct and maladministration *in his office*. But the senate can sustain an impeachment only for *official* misconduct or maladministration. Yet a judge may be guilty of misbehaviour other than official, utterly inconsistent with his publick character. For example, he may be guilty of crimes which would render him infamous in the eye of the law, or he may become otherwise openly and grossly immoral in his life and conduct. Such would be strong instances of misbehaviour, and afford just grounds of removal from office. But the constitution had made no provision for any other than official misbehaviour—for it had declared only, “That the senate shall be a court, with full authority to hear and determine all impeachments made by the house of representatives, against any officer or officers of the commonwealth, for misconduct and maladministration *in their offices*.”—Chap. 1. sect. 2. art. 8.

This proviso for the removal of a judge, by the Governour with the consent of the Council, upon the address of both houses of the Legislature, might therefore well be intended for such like *unofficial* mis-

behaviour. Or possibly (though I doubt it much) that either mode might be pursued, as, according to existing circumstances, the legislature might think best. The cause or ground of removal, however, in either case, always to remain substantially of the same nature, viz. misbehaviour, and proceeding in like manner from the judge himself; and not other and variant, depending upon the mode which may happen to be adopted to affect the removal.

This construction seems to comport with the requisition of the statute establishing this court, viz. that the judges of it shall be “learned in the law, and of *sobriety of manners*.” Giving it this construction, leaves every other part of the constitution its full and proper operation. It secures to the judge his necessary independence of character, and his legal estate in his office, viz. an estate determinable on misbehaviour only. And, what is infinitely of more importance to the community, it frees him from all undue influence in the interpretation of the laws, and administration of justice. It secures to every citizen his declared “*right to be tried by judges as free, impartial, and independent as the lot of humanity will admit*.” And it may be said, as in the language of our constitution, “It is therefore not only the best policy, but for the security of the rights of the people, and of every citizen, that the judges of the Supreme Judicial Court should hold their offices *as long as they behave themselves well*.”

This proviso is evidently taken from the abovementioned act of William III., which enacts that “judges’ commissions be made *Quamdiu se bene gesserit*, and their salaries ascertained and es-

established; but upon address of both houses of parliament it may be lawful to remove them."

The object of this statute was not to give any new power to the parliament, respecting the removal of the judges, but to make them independent of the king, and to point out when only it should be lawful for him to remove a judge; viz. upon the address of both houses of parliament.

Every lawyer knows the power of parliament is so transcendent and absolute, (1. Bl. Com. 160, 161) that it cannot be confined either for causes or persons within any bounds. That it can do every thing that is not naturally impossible. The meaning of which is, that there is no existing authority to control its acts or doings. And therefore, as is observed, "If by any means a misgovernment should any way fall upon it, the subjects of the kingdom are left without all manner of remedy." For, as the same writer observes, "so long as the English constitution lasts, we may venture to affirm, that the power of parliament is absolute and without control."

And I venture to affirm, that so long as the constitution of the state shall last, that the power of our legislature is neither absolute nor without control, that it possesses not full sovereign power in all cases; but, on the contrary, as it is created by the constitution, so its powers and authorities are thereby marked out and circumscribed. The people have therein said to that, as well as to the other branches of our government, hitherto shalt thou come, and no further. Besides pointing out many particular limitations and restrictions, which they may not constitutionally overleap, it declares generally, "The legislative depart-

ment shall never exercise the executive and judicial powers, or either of them." It gives full power and authority to make, ordain, and establish all manner of wholesome and reasonable orders, laws, &c. but it leaves not this important power without restriction, for it adds, "so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this constitution."

It is a possible case, the legislature may inadvertently overleap their bounds, that they might do an act purely executive or judicial. If such a case should happen, are the citizens, whose rights and interests may be thereby affected, left, as the subjects in England, without all manner of remedy? Or have they a constitutional right to resort for redress to the supreme judicial department? But,

If this be the constitutional mode, and that it is, several decisions of that court have determined, and fully relieved the parties aggrieved; I ask, can the citizen look for "an impartial interpretation of the laws and administration of justice," if the judges are dependent upon the body of whose act he complains, not only for their salaries, but even for their continuance in office? Will it answer to tell him, that, notwithstanding such things, his declared constitutional right "to be tried by judges as free, impartial, and independent as the lot of humanity will admit," remains unimpaired to him?

I might go on to put many more questions touching this subject, so important to every citizen, which would not require any answer from me. But I forbear. The subject is of a delicate nature, and my sole object is to call my fellow citizens in general to a calm, deliberate reflection upon it, before

precedents are too firmly established to be overthrown or changed. But,

If this subject does not engage the attention of the people, if it has become a maxim among them, that their representatives can do no wrong, either intentionally, or through error of judgment, then all the consequences of a depend-

ent judiciary must be endured by them. They have a right to bring this subject again before the legislature by instructions to their representatives, when they shall think fit. This is a constitutional and a peaceable mode, whenever they think their rights or their liberties have been brought into question by the acts of former legislatures.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE TO HIS FRIENDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

[We congratulate our readers on the opportunity of perusing the series of letters, now commenced. We thank the writer for enhancing the value of our Miscellany by these communications; and we know the publick will thank him for allowing us to render them partakers of a pleasure and benefit, which has been hitherto confined to a few.]

LETTER FIRST.

Florence, February 12, 1805.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

IN a city which has given birth, employment, or burial to so many illustrious men, my friends have a right to expect that I should say something. If I have not collected any new traits in their characters; at least I ought to be able to say, whether like prophets they have died without honour in their own country, as it is certain many of them lived in it without comfort. I ought to say, whether, where, and when, their country has erected brass or marble monuments to the memory of men, whom other nations have agreed to place among the most distinguished of mankind. Few cities can boast of having enrolled more illustrious persons among their citizens, than Florence. Cosmo and Lorenzo di Medici; Leo X. of the same il-

lustrious stock; Dante; Torricelli; Galileo; Michael Angelo, or Agnolo; Machiavel; Americus Vesputius, have all of them, in their various departments, contributed to create a splendour around this city, before celebrated for the early revival, and since, for the unremitting encouragement, of the fine arts. In the church of Santa Croce they have erected so many monuments to the distinguished geniuses of Italy, that it has been very properly called the 'Westminster Abbey' of Florence. In visiting these testimonies of gratitude to the dead, or rather these splendid proofs of the vanity of the living, we are irresistibly led to look more accurately into their biography, than when we consider them at a distance; and although I have no doubt that you are in general acquainted with the characters of these illustrious men,

yet it may afford you an hour's amusement to retrace some anecdotes and traits in their history. I know of no man in ancient or modern days, whose fate was more extraordinary than that of Galileo. You well knew the opposition which he met with while alive in propagating those doctrines which all men, since he is dead, concur to acknowledge to be correct.

Viviani, who styles himself his last pupil, was so impressed with his merits, that, whilst he did not dare openly to erect a mausoleum to his memory, he built a large palace, in the front of which he placed the bust of this philosopher, and in the ornaments of the facade he contrived to introduce his most important discoveries. Not content with this, he ordered by his will, that a monument should be erected, which was afterwards executed in 1733, and placed in the church of Santa Croce, opposite to that of Michael Agnolo. It is a superb marble sarcophagus, supported by Astronomy and Geometry, the sister sciences to which Galileo was most attached.

The execution of the honourable intentions of Viviani was suspended for a long time by the continuance of the same absurd prejudices, which had embittered the life of Galileo.

This great man, truly philosophick, if ever man deserved the title, had encountered all the jealousy and persecution, which men, superiour to their own age, are wont to experience.

His works had been condemned by the inquisition. Pursued himself, and thrown into prison, after six years confinement, he was not permitted to come out till he had abjured what all philosophers now know to be correct, as to the revolution of the earth around the sun.

Having survived this humiliation, he died in 1642, at the age of 78 years; his labours, his merit, his distinguished pupils, the favour even of his sovereign, his unmerited sufferings, could not procure him respite even in his last moments. Bigotry and superstition, the offspring of ignorance, were leagued against him. It was solemnly debated in the ecclesiastical courts, whether he could dispose of his goods by testament, and whether the church would grant him christian sepulture. This last point was settled against him, and being suspected of having relapsed into his former *errours*, of the rotundity and revolution of the earth, he was, as a heretick, interred in profane earth. It required all the credit and wealth of Viviani to erect in the midst of Florence a monument to his memory. It was afterwards decided by the grave theologians, that his ashes might be removed to sacred ground, but without any mark of distinction or honour, and it was not till after a solemn judicial decision, that they were permitted to place his remains in the monument designed to cover them. There does not remain (says a writer) any trace of the theological hatred against this great man, except an index of *books prohibited*, which was renewed under the pontificate of Benedict XIV. in 1758. The dialogue, which constituted his chief crime, together with the works of Bacon, Copernicus, Kepler, Descartes, and Foscarini, pupil of Galileo, were by that pope *still* proscribed.

It would be a mistake to suppose that Galileo brought this treatment upon himself by imprudence or bravado. To judge by a letter which he wrote to the archduke Leopold, when he sent him the

first telescopes which he had invented, he was far from shewing an insolent temper. This letter was accompanied by a memoir upon the causes of the tides, considered on the Copernican system, and which also was afterwards condemned by the inquisition.—Galileo says in this letter, as nearly as I can understand the Italian, “I happened to write this, while the theological lords were debating on the prohibition of the books of Copernicus, and respecting the opinion advanced in said books, and which I have for some time believed to be true, unless it should please these gentlemen to forbid the said books to be read, and to declare false and contrary to holy writ, the aforesaid opinions. Now I know, that it is my duty to obey and believe the decisions of my superiours, who are much better informed than I am, and to whose intelligence my inferiour genius cannot reach. I consider then this writing, which I send you, as a piece of poetry, or rather a dream, and as such I beg your excellency to receive it; but as every day we find poets appreciating their own fantasies, so I have the vanity to have some esteem of this opinion of mine.” I was pleased with the foregoing trait of Galileo, which I have just met with, and I could not refuse myself the pleasure of giving it to you.

The fickle and persecuting spirit of the Florentines was not confined to Galileo. Their illustrious poet Dante felt the effects of it. Banished from Florence by his ungrateful countrymen, he retired to Ravenna, where he died in 1341. After lying there a long time unhonoured and unknown, Bembo, the father of the cardinal, that famous patron of letters, erected a monument to the memory of Dante,

and inscribed upon it the following memorable epitaph.

‘*Exigua tumuli, Dantes, hic sorte jace-
bas*
‘*Squalenti nulli cognito pznè situ*
‘*At nunc marmoreo subnixus conderis
arcu*
‘*Omnibus et cultu splendidiore nites*
‘*Nimirum, Bembus, Musis incensis
Etruscis,*
‘*Moc tibi, quem imprimis hæ coluere,
dedit.”*

The Florentines afterwards repented of this cruelty to Dante, and by a publick decree rendered a just homage to the memory of the injured poet. The decree declares, that from the publick treasury “there should be erected to him in the cathedral and in a distinguished place an artificially sculptured monument with such statues and insignia, as might best contribute to ornament it.” They have also applied repeatedly to the inhabitants of Ravenna for permission to remove his ashes to Florence, but they have uniformly refused to part with the honourable deposit.

The celebrated Michael Agnolo Buonarrotti was of the Florentine school, and, considered in all the points of his character, may be rated as the first genius, who has appeared since the revival of letters. They attribute his early taste for sculpture to his having been nursed in a village, where the greater part of the people were of that profession. The effect however of such an accidental circumstance would have been very unimportant, if the Genius of the fine arts had not breathed into him a portion, and a large one, of her celestial fire. His wonderful success, and the vast variety and extent of his knowledge, may however be fairly attributed in some degree to the number of years which he was

enabled to devote to the exercise of his peculiar talents. He was born in 1475 and died in 1564, and continued the active pursuit of his profession till his decease. He was actually employed in erecting his *chef d'œuvre* in architecture, St. Peter's, at the moment of his death. At fourteen years of age he was placed with a celebrated sculptor, and at sixteen his works were considered far superiour to those of his master.

So universal was the genius of Michael Agnolo, that it has long been disputed, whether he excelled most as a Painter—Sculptor—or Architect.

In the former, his *Day of Judgment* in the Sixtine Chapel in the Vatican—in Sculpture, his *Moses* in the church of St. Peter in Vincolo—and in Architecture, the Dome of St. Peter's, are considered as his *chef d'œuvres*.

I have no hesitation in saying, (as I have no reputation to lose as a connoisseur, because I make no pretensions to the character) that I think, his architectural talents were most pre-eminent. As a painter, although he may have been a good composuist according to the rules of art, there is a harshness and coarseness extremely disagreeable to me in the character of his personages.

I know that this very quality is said to constitute the excellence of his manner, which consists in boldness and force, grandeur and sublimity, rather than grace and softness. But it is precisely his *manner* which displeases me; he makes every man an Hercules, and every woman an Amazon. I am told, and I believe, that his anatomy is perfect, and I confess that his pieces appear to me rather fitted for lessons to a young surgeon,

than to allure and captivate the eye of Taste.

In sculpture this manner of Michael Agnolo is less unpleasant. Unless the artist is forming an Adonis or a Venus, we have no objection to see the muscles well pronounced in a statue, and to have the form vigorous and masculine; and it must be admitted that few if any of the modern artists can compare with this great master. I cannot say however that I think Bernini much inferiour to him; but in architecture I take it to be conceded, that Michael Agnolo stands without a rival among the moderns.

There is one circumstance in his *Day of Judgment* which rigid critics might censure, but which poets and painters will perhaps forgive, and that is, his blending the heathen mythology with the doctrines of revelation, and this too upon so solemn and affecting a subject. In the back ground he represents the Supreme Being, with our Saviour at his right hand, with all the sublimity which the canvas could display: still I think it a subject too awful for the pencil, and I have never myself been satisfied with the highest attempts to delineate that Being, whom "eye hath not seen." In the fore ground we see Charon with his boat, ferrying over the Styx the souls of the departed. It must be acknowledged, that this is a strange confusion of sacred and profane ideas, and, with due respect to the memory of that great man, and to the piety of the popes who permitted it to be executed in their chapel, it appears to me to be little short of blasphemy.

There was a piece of satire also in this piece, which I still more wonder how the *Sacred College* could forgive. Michael Angelo

had been offended with a cardinal, and he revenged himself by placing the head of his Eminence upon the shoulders of one of the damned in purgatory.

A monument has been erected to this artist in the church of Santa Croce; but of what avail are monuments and funeral honours to a man, who will live forever in his works? *St. Peter's* is the mausoleum of Michael Agnolo, and it is a prouder one, and will endure longer, than those which the vanity of Augustus or Adrian caused to be erected to perpetuate their memories.

As Florence had the honour to give Michael Agnolo his education, so she can boast a greater number of his distinguished works. The chapel of the Medici is full of them, and every church has some statue at least of one of his pupils, all of whom were much distinguished. One proof often cited of the superiority of this great master is, that he left two statues incomplete, which no succeeding artist has dared to attempt to finish. One of them is the Virgin bewailing the death of our Saviour, and the other the head of *Brutus*. Under the last, cardinal Bernabo, to show his detestation of Brutus' crime, wrote the following couplet, with which Dr. Moore, who pretended to be a great stickler for civil liberty, finds great fault.

Dum Bruti effigiem, Michael de marmore fingit,
In mentem sceleris venit et abstinit.

For my part, I fully agree with the cardinal; for no man, who recollects the obligations of Brutus to Cæsar, can fail to detest the assassin of his own patron and friend.

I cannot close this letter without making a remark, that this age of Michael Agnolo, and of the Italian painters, was, in my opinion, as splendid as the Augustan, or the age of Louis XIV. Peter Perugine, the master of Raphael, Michael Agnolo, Raphael, Andrea del Sarto, Giulio Romano, Caravaggio, Correggio, the most eminent men who have appeared since the revival of letters, in architecture, sculpture, and painting, and whose chef-d'œuvres still constitute the most valuable possessions of the countries which they honoured by their residence, were all cotemporaries. What a brilliant age! what a galaxy of talents!! Where shall we find its equal since the age of Augustus? If to this period, we add the age of Louis XIV. and of Queen Anne, what pretence is there to say, as some of our philosophers do, that we have improved upon those who have gone before us, especially in the more refined parts of literature?

Adieu.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 23.

In sylvam ferre lignum.

AMERICAN ELOQUENCE.

AS an orator, Mr. Randolph is far from contemptible. But he mistakes his powers. He ought to feel that Pitt's lightning singes his fingers; he ought to know that

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Burke's thunder deafens his ears. —Randolph's "thunder rumbles from the mustard bowl;" his lightning flashes from the warming-pan. There's no harm, said Dr. Johnson, in a fellow's rattling a

rattle-box, only don't let him think he thunders; and unless his bed suffers from it, one might say there's no harm in a fellow's whirling a lintstock, only don't let him think he lightens.—Eloquence, or, in its definition, the power of persuading men against their passions and interests, of convincing them against their prejudices and opinions, is a rare gift; and so rich, because rare, that neither Greece, nor Rome, nor England, boasts more than two orators. Burke and Pitt are scarcely inferior to Demosthenes and Æschines; Æschines and Demosthenes are hardly superior to Hortensius and Cicero; the names of these men will never die. Who will say that since ***, in the senate, softened opposition to, indifference, and ****, at the bar, reasoned prejudice to candour, that in America the human powers dwindle and weaken to dwarfish, infantine insignificance and imbecility? The time will come, it must, it is fast approaching, when the rhetorical reasoning of a liberal, clear-sighted statesman, and the argumentative eloquence of an honest, open-hearted lawyer, will be acknowledged and applauded. The uncloying sweetness of *** will enchant, the overpowering strength of **** will astonish posterity.

DR. JORTIN.

Dr. Jortin's is perhaps the happiest style in the English language. Not because rounded and laboured to bold relief and high elegance; for of these qualities it has so very little, that his periods are rather meagre than full, rather negligent than polite; but because his good feelings and sound doctrines flow clear and strong, in one blended current of powerful eloquence and lucid argument. Jortin's style

has nothing of the tarnished, tinseled finery, nothing of the awkward, affected hauteur of a tattered, trade-fallen courtesan; the clear, pure colours of nature he never sullies by attempting to brighten the rose to a clearer red, to soften the lily to a purer white. Jortin's style is a shepherdess, simple and modest, neat without nicety, chaste without prudery. Innocence sparkles from her eyes; sweetness trickles from her lips; her cheek glows with health and love, her bosom heaves with hope and joy.

IN MEMORY OF A FRIEND.

WHAT honours, what unwithering, immortal glories await the man, of whom it may be said, without exaggerated praise, *nihil fecit, nihil dixit, nihil sensit nisi laudandum!* For the death of such a man our eyes are still wet with tears, our hearts still big with sighs.

.....Lycidas is dead, dead ere his prime
Young Lycidas, and hath not left his
peer.

But why tears, why sighs, for one who lived in purity, and died in peace; who, from a world of misery and death, is now translated to a world of life and happiness—from restless sinfulness and bodily discord, to

That holy calm, that harmony of mind,
Where purity and peace imingle
charms.

His 'hope was full of immortality.' He breathed back to heaven a soul spotless as truth, sincere as love; he died in "sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection." Such were the moral qualities of my friend. Of his intellectual powers, it is difficult to say which was superior; his imagination, which seemed to glow with the pure, unmingled fire of genius, or his judg-

ment, which appeared to shine with the clear, unclouded light of intuition. He lived full of ambition,....he died full of honour. Those, who love and cherish virtue and piety, loved and cherished him; those who respect and reverence learning and genius, respected and revered him.

Ye vallies low, where the mild whis-
pers rise
Of shades and wanton winds, and gush-
ing brooks,
On whose fresh lap the swart star spare-
ly looks,
Throw hither all your quaint enamelled
eyes
That on the green turf suck the honied
showers,
And purple all the ground with vernal
flowers.
Bring the rathe primrose, that forsaken
dies,
The tufted crowtoe, and pale jeasmine,
The white pink and the pansy freakt
with jet,
The glowing violet,
The musk-rose and the well-attir'd
woodbine,
With cowslips wan, that hang the pen-
sive head,
And every flower that sad embroidery
wears;
Bid amaranthus all his beauty shed,
And daffodillies fill their cups with tears,
To strow the laureat hearse where Ly-
cid lies.

NEQUID NIMIS.

LIBERAL curiosity should always be gratified; but that little, sneaking, bastard, pimping thing, which can unfold all my wishes, and tell to a farthing and syllable the amount of my estate and learning; such curiosity cannot be enough despised, or too often disappointed. Industry of this kind is worse than inaction, as dozing stupidity is better than maddening genius.

FAITH—WORKS.

IF, as the learned and ingenious bishop Taylor asserts (and who unless grossly illiterate and stupid-

ly senseless will peremptorily deny a solemn, deliberate assertion, coming from a man of wide reading and deep thinking) if 'things practical are the hinges of immortality,' one may, without forfeiting his character for charity, ask, why at the present day so many sounding-boards serve only to return, in a drowsy, humming echo, an old opinion of some early hereticks, who, because faith is the centre, mother doctrine, and virtue of christianity, thought none of the sister, radiant virtues and doctrines worthy of notice or practice. If reduced to one of two answers (and more than two answers the question hardly admits) I should sooner ascribe this opinion, which indeed seems rather the odious soot-erkin of unthinking fatuity, than the hideous monster of un pitying malignity, to weakness of mind, which may be ingrained and is therefore excuseable; than to coldness of heart, which must be acquired, and is therefore unpardonable. Those who worship God from filial love, which is a warm, generous feeling, and softens by opening the heart, are anxious in some degree to merit reward by learning to do well; yet those who adore God from servile fear, which is a cold, narrow prejudice, and hardens by contracting the mind, are content at any rate to escape punishment by ceasing to do evil. The former class of christians combine sound faith and good works, and bring them to amicable co-operation; the latter (I hope I am not sacrilegious in applying the sacred name of christians to men, who seem ashamed to imitate the only imitable traits of their Saviour's character) separate them, and set at implacable opposition ardent benevolence and fervent piety.

He whom Milton followed, and
Gladly beheld tho' but his utmost skirts
Of glory, and far off his steps adored—

(for Spenser astonishes as well as delights)—such a poet ought not to lie idle in a scholar's library. Spenser combines the discrimina- tive features of Homer and Virgil. Homer is hardly more sublime than Spenser ; Spenser is almost as beautiful as Virgil. "Vivo gur- gite exundat" is a faint shadowy image of a mind rich in learning and full of genius. Spenser can- not indeed frenzy unrepining pa- tience to madness, he cannot soften unrelenting obduracy to tender- ness ; but what is possible, he can and does effect. He can and does cheer the disconsolate and doubt- ful mind to comfort and hope ; he can and does charm the sullen and indifferent heart to love and rapture. Such is the melting, honied sweetness of Spenser, that,

Of surfeit where full measure only
secure bounds

Excess,

I am never weary of reading the
Faery Queen.

PATRIOTISM.

"To serve bravely is to come halt- ing off." These words of honest Jack Falstaff, I once heard quoted by a man, who, instead of acquir- ing in the "morn and liquid dew of youth," what he deserved, hon- our and competence, is now in "the twilight of sere age," wearing out in neglect and penury the mis- erable remnant of a life once res- pectable and affluent. In that un- natural, though perhaps necessary, struggle, when, as yet hardly wean- ed, and so feeble that we could not even totter about in leading strings,

we tore ourselves from the warm bosom and tender embraces of our mother country, *****'s conduct was open and direct ; no reserva- tion lurked in his mind, no equivoca- tion fell from his tongue. We have broken, said he, a sacred tie, but my duty to my native soil is more sacred than my obligations arising from this violated union. I will fight and bleed and die, to seal the independence of my country. Such were once, such are still the feelings and opinions of a man, who though at present in disgrace and poverty, cheerfully expects, and will hereafter gladly receive, a rich and glorious reward. But why in disgrace, why in poverty ? Because he loved truth with a warmer affection than he courted popular applause ; because he hat- ed guilt with a deeper aversion, than he shunned publick contempt.— And indeed, if our hands are clean, if our integrity is clear and un- questioned, what, in popular ap- plause, can heighten affection for it, to doating, drivelling fondness ? If our hearts are pure, if our hon- our is fair and unsuspected, what, in publick contempt, can exasper- ate aversion from it, to trembling, shuddering horror ?

Publick contempt, what is it ? It is a dream, it is nothing. Who, then, will fly from it, as from the lowest misery ? At worst, it is easi- ly borne, and even under its coldest frowns the warm smiles of hope, and cheerful, brightening anticipa- tion, are playing on our cheeks.

Popular applause, what is it ? It is the shadow of a dream, it is less than nothing. Who, then, will pant for it, as for the highest happiness ? At best, it is quickly gone, and even under its warmest caresses the cold tears of fear, and dismal, darkening apprehension, are stealing from our eyes.

IN MEMORIAM
ARTHUR MAYNARD WALTER:

BONI;
JURIS, AC OMNIUM
RERUM,
LITERIS ATTENTIVUM,
SUPRA SUAM AETATEM,
VALDE PERITI.

ANNŌ DOMINI
MILLESIMO OCTINGENTESIMO SEPTIMO;
ÆTATIS SUÆ
VICESIMO SEXTO;
JANUARIJ
DIE SECUNDO,
SPLENDIDIOREM INIRE,
HANC VITAM RELIQUIT.

.....

Eheu, vos charum tam perdere sanguine junctos!
Eheu, vos comites miseros tam perdere fidum!
Eheu, vos Musas tristes tam perdere amicum!
Eheu, mundum infelicem tam perdere rectum!
Tristes dilectum sobolem plorate Camæne!
Occidit infelix puer, ah! memorande per avum,
Nulla tuam poterit virtutem abolere vetustas.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

To the Editors of the *Anthology*.

GENTLEMEN,

I enclose to you for publication NATHANIEL GARDNER's Latin translation of Dr. Watts' ode on the *Nativity of Christ*. It is faithfully copied from the manuscript of that eccentric genius. He graduated at *Harvard College* in 1739, and was many years usher in the Latin school in Boston, under the celebrated LOVELL. He died in the year 1760. He was distinguished for his classical taste and acquirements, of which the lines, now communicated, are no unfavourable specimen. The letters S. W. probably indicate the person to whom the performance was addressed, but it is not known to whom they refer. The sentence in the introduction, which he left incomplete, *Tua carmina, &c.* cannot be fully explained. Perhaps it has reference to Virgil's

Tæ tuum carmen nobis, divine poeta,
Quale sopor—

for it appears that this elegant performance was a nocturnal exercise, in a time of invincible watchfulness. Yours,

PHILO-MUSE.

December 25, 1806.

N. G. S. W. S. D. 1750.

Hæc ego, paucis abhinc noctibus, fugiente oculos Morphæo, in lectulo condidi.
Eignus istud, exiguum utcunque, amoris et observantiæ, excipias, quasso. *Tua carmina, &c.* Vale.

CARMEN WATSIANUM,

LATINIS NUMERIS DONATUM.

Shepherds, rejoice, &c.

Gabriel.

DEJECTA, O, tandem sustollite lumina læti,
Et mala, Pastores, jam date vestra notis.
Gaudia genti hominum cælestis nuncius affert,
Nascitur en! hodie, non peritura, salus.
Sedibus his, felix, hodie succedit Iesus,
Quem numen, Seraphûra flammea turba colunt.
Urbes ingreditur jam nunc novus incola vestras,
Nec tamen is regum more modoque venit.
Non illum exornant Tyrio bis murice tinctæ
Vestis; hunc circum regia nulla nitent.
Vile Deo præsepe dedit cunabula blando,
Hæc regum Regem sordida claustra tenent.
Ite, O pastores! puerumque videte jacentem,
Præsepe, en! solium est—en! comitesque boves.
Ite, O pastores! puero date basia regi,
Dum lætæ lachrymæ prosiliunt oculis.

Poeta loquitur.

Hæc cecinit Gabriel, divinâ voce, simulque
Cælestes turmæ, læta corona, canunt.

Et majora cavunt psallunt ac altius,* et sic
Cantibus imposuit læta corona modum.

Chorus Angelorum.

Gloria summa Deo, nutu qui temperat orbes !
Rideat æternùm pax quoque terra, tibi !
Ter genus humanum felix ! venit ecce ! Redemptor.
Quid sit Patris amor, hoc veniente, scies.

Poeta loquitur.

Quid ? chorus angelicus quàm cantet talia lætus,
Gens ingrata hominum cæmina nulla dabit ?
O, linguæ pereant, hærentes faucibus, ipsæ,
Si cessant laudes tot celebrare Dei.

Chorus hominum.

Gloria summa Deo, nutu qui temperat orbes !
Nosque suâ miseros qui recreavit ope.
Talem hominesque simul, Seraphesque canemus
Digna cani ambobus, nascitur ipsa salus.

For the Anthology.

LINES, ADDRESSED TO A MOTHER,

ON THE DEATH OF TWO INFANTS,

19th September, 1803, and 19th December, 1806.

SURE, to the mansions of the blest,
When infant innocence ascends,
Some angel, brighter than the rest,
The spotless spirit's flight attends.

On wings of ecstasy they rise
Beyond where worlds material roll :
Till some fair sister of the skies
Receives the unpolluted soul.

There, at th' Almighty Father's hand,
Nearest the throne of living light,
The choirs of infant seraphs stand,
And dazzling shine, where all are bright.

Chain'd for a dreary length of years
Down to these elements below,
Some stain the sky-born spirit bears,
Contracted from this world of woe.

That inextinguishable beam,
With dust united at our birth,
Sheds a more dim, discolour'd gleam,
The more it lingers upon earth.

Clos'd in this dark abode of clay
The stream of glory faintly burns ;
Nor unobscur'd the lucid ray
To its own native fount returns.

But when the Lord of mortal breath
Decrees his bounty to resume,
And points the silent shaft of death,
Which speeds an infant to the tomb—

* Originally written "*psalluntque sonoricus*," but those words crossed with the pen in the manuscript, and the following note is subjoined: "*nequam, apud probos saltem aethores, occurrit vox ista, sonoricus ; sic corrige...psallunt ac altius.*"

No passion fierce, no low desire
Has quench'd the radiance of the flame,
Back to its God, the living fire
Reverts, unclouded as it came.

Oh, Anna! be that solace thine:
Let Hope her healing charm impart;
And soothe, with melodies divine,
The anguish of a mother's heart.

Oh! think the darlings of thy love
Divested of this earthly clod,
Amid unnumber'd spirits above,
Bask in the bosom of their God.

Of their short pilgrimage on earth
Still tender images remain;
Still, still they bless thee for their birth,
Still, filial gratitude retain.

The days of pain, the nights of care,
The bosom's agonizing strife,
The pangs which thou for them didst bear,
No! they forget them not with life.

Scarce could their germing thought conceive
While in this vale of tears they dwell;
Scarce their fond sympathy relieve
The suff'rance thou for them hast felt.

But there the soul's perennial flower
Expands in never-fading bloom;
Spurns at the grave's poor transient hour,
And shoots immortal from the tomb.

No weak, unform'd idea, there
Toils, the mere promise of a mind;
The tide of intellect flows clear,
Strong, full, unchanging and refin'd.

Each anxious care, each rending sigh,
That wrung for them the parent's breast,
Dwells on remembrance in the sky,
Amid the raptures of the blest.

O'er thee, with looks of love they bend,
For thee the Lord of life implore;
And oft from sainted bliss descend,
Thy wounded quiet to restore.

Oft in the stillness of the night
They smooth the pillow for thy bed:
Oft, till the morn's returning light,
Still watchful hover o'er thy head.

Hark! in such strains as saints employ,
They whisper to thy bosom, Peace;
Calm the perturbed heart to joy,
And bid the streaming sorrow cease.

Then dry henceforth the bitter tear,
Their part and thine inverted see!
Thou wert *their* guardian angel here,
—They guardian angels *now* to thee.

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JANUARY, 1807.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quæ commutanda, quæ extimenda, arbitrarer. Nam ego dicere vero assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ARTICLE I.

Epistles, odes, and other poems, by Thomas Moore, Esq.—Tanti non es, ais : sapia, Luciferce. Philadelphia, John Watts. 1806. 8vo. pp. 306.

THE lighter poetry of Mr. Moore, for which alone he is distinguished, is elegant, voluptuous, and profligate. It is not always well finished; the ideas are often indistinct, and the images obscure; but it is commonly highly polished, the versification is smooth, and the language brilliant. He may claim precedence to most of the minor poets of the present day; for though he has discovered no felicity of invention, and none of those other powers which constitute a bard of the higher rank, yet there is in his verses much of that fancy, which busies itself in properly adorning little things, much elegance of description, and much delicacy of expression, and sometimes of sentiment. To obtain this precedence, however, he has made a very dear sacrifice, for he has built his fame, as a poet, on the ruins of his reputation as a man; and written with no common disregard of decency and morality.

In the volume before us, there is a singular mixture of what none

can disapprove, with what very few will commend; of purity and foulness; of verses to seduce and verses to warn, of that lighter poetry, whose character we have given, together with odes, shewy without elegance, and cumbrous without sentiment; and satires, in the form of epistles, in which feeble thoughts are hardly supported by strong expression. If we view its different pieces in connection with each other, and with the character of the author, we find in it repentance without amendment, love without friendship, contempt without superiority, and pedantry without learning. Mr. Moore, in the preface, with a modesty, which every one knows how to estimate, says that he regrets having had leisure to write such trifles, and that he is induced to publish them by the liberal offers of his bookseller. As he is a young man, perhaps it would have been as well to have left us to believe that his vanity, and not his avarice, overcame his virtue.

Most of the poems, in this collection, were written during Mr. Moore's absence from Europe, on a visit to America. The first which it contains is an epistle to lord Strangford, which is fanciful and fond, and much superiour to

any one, of equal length, in the volume.

The short poem, which immediately succeeds this epistle, is untainted, beautiful, and holy. To the following stanzas we are willing to give unlimited praise :

I felt how the pure intellectual fire,
In luxury loses its heavenly ray ;
How soon in the ravishing cup of desire
The pearl of the soul may be melted
away.

And I prayed of that spirit, who light-
ed the flame,

• That pleasure no more might its pu-
rity dim ;

And that sullied but little, or brightly
the same,

I might give back the gem, I had
borrowed from him.

The thought was extatick, I felt as if
heaven

Had already the wreath of eternity
shown,

As if passion all chastened, and error
forgiven,

My heart had begun to be purely its
own.

It is to be regretted, that the author of these stanzas should have employed his talents so ill as to write much of what follows in this collection. A few pages distant from the poem just mentioned, is "The Wedding Ring," which we forbear to publish.

Is it not strange, that the author, who could sit down and coolly compose, and afterward deliberately publish such a poem ; that he, who could thus endeavour (we do not say with what success) to seduce away taste and feeling from their natural alliance with virtue ; is it not strange, that he should have confidence to make, in another part of the same volume, the following observations ?

'The Abbé Raynal, in his prophetick admonitions to Americans, directing their attention very strongly to learned establishments, says, "When the youth

of a country are seen depraved, the nation is on the decline." I know not what the Abbé Raynal would pronounce of this nation now, were he alive to know the morals of the young students at Williamsburg ! But when he wrote, his countrymen had not yet introduced the "doctrinam deos spernentem" into America.' P. 141, note.

Mr. Moore ranks himself among the disciples of the old school of morality and politicks. We admit no such associates :

....."procul hinc, procul inde puella
Lenonum, et cantus pernocantis para-
siti."

Passing over several poems, we come to a collection entitled "Odes to Nea," in one of which, describing Nea sleeping, there is the following passage of oriental luxury of description, and obscurity of similitude :

The broad banana's green embrace
Hung shadowy round each tranquil
grace ;

One little beam alone could win
The leaves to let it wander in,
And, stealing over all her charms,
From lip to cheek, from neck to arms,
It glanc'd around a fiery kiss,
All trembling, as it went, with bliss !

Her eyelid's black and silken fringe
Lay on her cheek, of vermil tinge,
Like the first ebon cloud, that closes
Dark on evening's heaven of roses !
Her glances, though in slumber hid,
Seem'd glowing through their ivory lid,
And o'er her lip's reflecting dew
A soft and liquid lustre threw,
Such as, declining dim and faint,
The lamp of some beloved saint
Doth shed upon a flowery wreath,
Which pious hands have hung beneath.
P. 96.

It may be excused, perhaps, in a poet, to talk of a sun-beam trembling with bliss, but it conveys no image of beauty to describe the eye-lashes of his mistress, as laying on her cheek ; it is much more extravagant than fanciful, to tell of the dew of her lip reflecting

the lustre of her eye ; and it is not very consistent to make glances, hid in slumber, throw lustre on this reflecting dew.

Every thing, in Mr. Moore's poetry, is liable to be in love. In the following extract from an epistle to the Marchioness Dowager of Donegall, the appropriation of that quality is somewhat singular :

The morn was lovely, every wave was still,
When the first perfume of a cedar-hill
Sweetly awak'd us, and with smiling charms,
The fairy harbour woo'd us to its arms.
Gently we stole, before the languid wind,
Through plantain shades, that like an awning twin'd
And kiss'd on either side the wanton sails,
Breathing our welcome to these vernal vales ;
While far reflected o'er the wave serene
Each wooded island shed so soft a green,
That the enamour'd keel, with whispering play,
Through liquid herbage seem'd to steal its way !

P. 38.

This whispering, playful, enamoured keel, is a flight of imagination to which we scarcely recollect a parallel. We trust to be easily believed when we say, that Mr. Moore has seldom written worse ; though we might produce several passages, in some degree similar.

Mr. Moore's poetry is in general incorrect. In some "Lines written on leaving Philadelphia," which have appeared in several of our publick prints, there is the following stanza :

O nature ! though blessed and bright
are thy rays,
' O'er the brow of creation enchantingly thrown,
Yet faint are they all to the lustre,
which plays
In a smile from the heart, that is dearly
our own.

P. 193.

We readily admit, that there is nothing, however lovely or bright, but what is faint to the smile of affection ; but we do not know what is meant by the rays of nature, thrown over the brow of creation. Another stanza of this poem is the following :

But the lays of his boyhood had stolen
to their ear,
And they loved what they knew of
so humble a name,
And they told him with flattery, welcome and dear,
That they found in his heart some
thing sweeter than fame.

The meaning of this last line is not easily intelligible ; but in the concluding stanza, the author, with strange inaccuracy, talks of enjoying the endearments of society, while alone :

The stranger is gone—but he will not
forget,
When at home he shall talk of the
toil he has known,
To tell with a sigh what endearments
he met,
As he strayed by the wave of the
Schuykill alone.

Incorrect poetry may please at first reading, but the mind is unsatisfied and distrustful, and at every examination it appears more worthless. The lustre of a false brilliant, though it may deceive at first sight, is easily defaced, and Mr. Moore's "gems of poesy," are, many of them, false brilliants.

Among the remaining poems, there is none better than that, in which the author takes leave of our country, and anticipates his welcome at home, from which the following is an extract :

Well—peace to the land ! may the
people, at length,
Know that freedom is bliss, but that
honour is strength ;

That, though man have the wings of
the fetterless wind,
Of the wantonest air that the north can
unbind,
Yet, if health do not sweeten the blast
with her bloom,
Nor Virtue's aroma its pathway per-
fume,
Unblest is the freedom, and dreary the
flight,
That but wanders to ruin, and wan-
tons to blight!

Farewel to the few I have left with
regret ;
May they sometimes recal, what I can-
not forget,
What communion of heart and that par-
ley of soul,
Which have lengthened our nights and
illumin'd our bowl,
When they've ask'd me the manners,
the mind or the mien
Of some bard I had known, or some
chief I had seen,
Whose glory, though distant, they long
had ador'd,
Whose name often hallowed the juice
of their board !
And still as, with sympathy humble
but true,
I told them each luminous trait that I
knew,
They have listen'd, and sigh'd that the
powerful stream
Of America's empire should pass, like
a dream,
Without leaving one fragment of gen-
ius, to say
How sublime was the tide which had
vanish'd away ! P. 292.

In his censures upon our coun-
try Mr. Moore, in some of his epis-
tles, has been not a little severe.
We do not mean to controvert
their justness. We know, that in
this land, where the spirit of de-
mocracy is every where diffused,
we are exposed, as it were, to
a poisonous atmosphere, which
blasts every thing beautiful in na-
ture and corrodes every thing ele-
gant in art ; we know, that with us
the " rose-leaves fall ungathered ;"
and we believe, that there is little
to praise, and nothing to admire
in most of the objects, which would

first present themselves to the view
of a stranger. We have the same
feeling with Mr. Moore for that
miserable love of power or popu-
larity,

Which courts the rabble's smile, the
rabble's nod,
And makes, like Egypt, every beast its
God ;

and we know, that our country
must improve much, before she
can hope to

.... see her poets flash the fires of song
To light her warriors' thunderbolts
along.

But there are very few passages in
these epistles, which are of equal
merit with the two, which we have
just quoted. The weapon of
satire is unwieldy in the hands of
their author. His indignation is
impotent ; his invective is fre-
quently little more than low ex-
pressions, coarsely applied, "*lusco
fossit dicere lusce.*" In his poems
in heroick verse there are many
lines feeble and prosaick, and many
that are tangled together by the
continuation of the sense from
verse to verse, and from couplet to
couplet ; and there is, throughout,
a lifeless dilation of sentiment, that
will not satisfy the taste of the
present day, accustomed to the
poetry of Pope, in which every
syllable is animate with meaning.

There are three poems in this
volume, whose titles are, "The
Genius of Harmony, an irregular
ode," "Fragment of a mythologi-
cal Hymn to Love," and "The
Fall of Hebe, a dithyrambic ode."
These resemble, in some degree,
the forgotten pindarick odes of the
age of Cowley. They are extrava-
gantly irregular in metre, and
thought, and expression. The two
former are without plan or pur-
pose, and the latter is not very
decent.

To speak in general terms, we cannot recommend the poetry of Mr. Moore. Powerful as human passions are, we regard with utter disapprobation the author, who applies a torch to the bonds, by which they are feebly restrained. The publication of such poetry is not one of those errors, which the weakness of our nature admonishes us to be lenient in censuring. There is nothing, which can be more under the regulation of reason, than the morality or immorality of writings for the world; so that it is often that men sanction much better principles of conduct by the authority of their writings, than by the example of their lives. There have been few authors, who have not had prudence to consider, that it would afford no pleasure to reflect on having endeavoured to give seduction to evil; to delude the thoughtless; and make levity guilt.

ART. 2.

An apology for the rite of infant baptism, and for the usual modes of baptizing; in which an attempt is made to state fairly and clearly the arguments in proof of these doctrines, and also to refute the objections and reasonings alledged against them, by the Rev. Daniel Merrill, and by the baptists in general. By John Reed, D. D. pastor of a church and congregation in Bridgewater. Providence, printed by Heaton & Williams. 12mo. pp. 346.

NO subject of controversial divinity has obtained so much attention, during a few past years, in the country parishes of this state, as that which has been excited by the sect of the baptists. Because our Lord did not expressly command his apostles to baptize infants, it

has been contended, that the practice is a subversion of his institution; and because they, who were dedicated to God in their infancy, by their believing and pious parents, cannot discern the necessity of receiving immersion, they are considered, notwithstanding their faith in Christ, and their moral resemblance of him, as certainly excluded from his visible kingdom, if not, likewise, from all the future blessings which he has promised to his followers. We do not hesitate to confess, that we opened this volume with an expectation of being confirmed in the sentiments which it professes to vindicate; and by the perusal of it, our expectations have not been disappointed.

'The work is divided into four principal points. The first part has reference to the subjects of baptism; the second, to modes of baptizing; the third part is a brief account of the evidence resulting from history, and especially in proof of the right, of the infant children of believing parents, to baptism; and the fourth part is an appendix, consisting of familiar questions and answers, adapted to persons of different prejudices and capacities, and suited to the present state and circumstances of the controversy.'

Introduction, p. 6.

If we had felt disposed harshly to censure any modes of phrasology which we do not approve, to erase any apparently redundant expressions, or to turn our eyes from proofs which were already familiar, the following modest and benevolent apology would have completely repressed the inclination:

'The intelligent and well-informed reader will perhaps feel disgusted with the frequent occurrence of repetition, prolixity, and old arguments. My only excuse is, that I

have uniformly endeavoured to avoid obscurity, and to write as intelligibly as was possible; in such a manner, as to be understood even by the weak and ignorant. I have accordingly studied perspicuity, more than comprehensive brevity, and plainness of speech, more than elegance of diction.

Introduction, p. 7.

The epistolary method which Dr. Reed has adopted, will probably be the most popular, and therefore the most useful. His arrangement of the subject is judicious: the arguments are stated with great clearness and force, and with sufficient precision; and they are applied with the earnestness and candour, which should ever characterise the ministers of Jesus.

In proof of the right of infants to the ordinance of baptism, he appeals to an established and approved practice of the Jews, a practice which had continued from the time of Moses, of "initiating by circumcision, the offering of sacrifices, and by baptism, all the Gentiles who became proselytes to Judaism. They were all baptized: males and females, adults and infants." It is a sufficient reason for the *silence* of our Saviour on this subject, that the right was authorised by the usage of so many ages; a silence, which, however, to the baptists, seems tantamount to the *loudest* declaration, that he designed its restriction to those only, who were capable of making a confession of their faith.

But it is the principal argument by which he vindicates the propriety and the obligation of infant baptism, that "the blessings of the covenant of circumcision, were not wholly, nor principally of a temporal, but of a religious and spiritual nature; and that this covenant was not abolished, but established

and confirmed by the christian dispensation. That the blessing of Abraham, *that* salvation which was of the Jews, is come upon the Gentiles; that they who are of the faith, are the children of Abraham, and blessed with faithful Abraham; and if children, then heirs to all the blessings and privileges of the covenant. *They are the seed of the blessed, and their children with them.*" This argument he has illustrated with much ability; and in the progress of it has explained, to the most common apprehensions of men, numerous passages in the epistles of St. Paul, of which many who are familiar with the New Testament have very inadequate conceptions. We recommend it to very attentive perusal, as a commentary, which will stand the test of examination; and as a defense of the baptism of infants, which cannot probably be evaded.

In the 2d part, "the different modes of baptizing" are considered; and the propriety of administering this rite of our religion by sprinkling is very ably and satisfactorily defended. Dr. Reed does not deny the validity of immersion, nor the propriety of thus administering this ordinance to adults, who have never been baptised, and who conscientiously prefer it: but we think that he has demonstrated, that there is neither an example nor a precept of the gospel, from which the obligation to this practice can be inferred. His criticisms on the verb *βαπτίζω*, and on the prepositions *ἐν*, *ὑπό*, *ἐπί*, and *σύν*, are not matters of taste, but of fact; nor do they require even a knowledge of the Greek alphabet to understand them. On readers, who are intelligent and candid, though unlearned, they will hardly fail therefore of producing

conviction, that the application of water by sprinkling, either to adults or infants, is at least as scriptural, as by total immersion.

The third part contains observations "on the history of baptism," in which he exposes the mutilated quotations, by which Mr. Merrill endeavours to prove the antiquity and universality of the practice of immersion; and by adducing several ancient and unquestionable authorities, evinces, that sprinkling was a mode of baptizing in the second century, that it was applied to the children of believing parents, and that the practice has continued in the churches thro' all succeeding ages. It is mentioned by the fathers of the first and purest ages of christianity, as a practice of which no one doubted the propriety, and in the same terms in which it would have been natural to speak of it, if it had been sanctioned by repeated and explicit commands of our Lord and of his apostles. These "observations" display a mind inquisitive for truth, and which will not be satisfied with partial evidence, whenever that which is full and clear can be obtained; and not only will they be read with interest, but produce "confirmation strong" of the doctrine, which they are intended to support.

In the appendix a number of questions are proposed, with which baptists are fond of puzzling those whom they would convert; and the answers, in general, we believe would equally puzzle these zealous catechists. A defence of the baptism of infants, and of the usual mode of its administration, written in the form of a dialogue, and in the most simple language, and embracing all the passages in the bible which have any reference to these subjects, would probably be

more effectual, than all the learned volumes which the controversy has occasioned. With the utmost deference, we therefore venture to recommend to Dr. Reed, a separation of this appendix from his book, and such an enlargement of it, as will furnish to people in common life, a complete and familiar vindication of the propriety and duty of dedicating their children to God, in this way of his appointment. We suggest this plan to Dr. Reed, from a conviction of the ability with which it would be executed, and from a knowledge of his zeal to do good. If an apology for this recommendation be necessary, we think a reference to Dr. Johnson's eulogy of Dr. Watts will be entirely satisfactory. "Every man acquainted with the common principles of human action, will look with veneration on the writer, who is at one time combating Locke, and at another time making a catechism for children in their fourth year. A voluntary descendant from the dignity of science, is perhaps the hardest lesson which humility can teach."

We cordially recommend this volume to all who are desirous of obtaining information on the subject of which it treats; and we think no inquirer, who consults it only for the purpose of acquiring truth, will remain unsatisfied.

ART. 3.

A discourse, delivered at Plymouth, 22 of December, 1806, at the anniversary commemoration of the first landing of the fathers, A.D. 1620. By Abiel Holmes. 8vo. Cambridge, Hilliard. 1806.

DR. HOLMES is entitled to much credit as an annalist, and may long be quoted, as correct authority in chronological statements; but it

is not owing to fastidiousness in say; it is not from an expectation of meeting with flights of eloquence in every paragraph, or with poetical description at the turning of every leaf, that we confess ourselves dissatisfied with this discourse. We think that the author might for once have contented himself with a general attention to historical fact, without descending to the minutia of narration.

The text is taken from the epistle to the Romans, xi. 5. "*Where are the fathers?*" After a short introduction, in which there is little to prepossess an audience very much in favour of the speaker, he proceeds to inquire, "who the fathers were, what were their characters, what were their religious principles, and what privileges there are in a descent from them?"

In the answer to the first inquiry, we meet with much to demand our critical censure. Narration, when it is well conducted, is generally as interesting to an audience as any part of a discourse. It requires, however, some degree of judgment to discern at what period it should commence, and to select the events, which are most interesting and of most importance; not a little ingenuity, to embellish, as in the present instance, "a thrice told tale;" still more of feeling and of taste, to give pertinence to remark, sublimity to description, and impressiveness to exclamation. But here, the narration begins much farther back than is necessary; much is related which might have been omitted; and the old story—is the old story still. There is no pertinence of observation; the only attempt at sublimity we meet with, is a burlesque upon description; and the exclamations produce little more effect than as much unmeaning

sound. As an example of the latter, read the following:

'Whatever it cost them! Noble resolution! Heroick spirits, worthy of the primitive ages of christianity!'

We will extract a specimen of the orator's descriptive talents:

*'You have often, in imagination, accompanied the shallop, which was sent out with Carver, Bradford, Winslow, Standish, and a few seamen, to sail around the bay, in search of a settlement. When this little company divided, you followed, with anxious look, those who travelled on shore, yet not regardless of their fellow adventurers in the shallop. You trembled at that sight of Indian arrows, till you heard the report of the English muskets. But how great was your terrour, when the wind rose, the sea grew tumukubous, the rudder broke, and two men with oars, could scarcely steer the boat! How was that terrour heightened, when you found the storm increasing, the night approaching, the mast breaking, the sail the same instant falling overboard into the sea! You were relieved a moment, when you perceived that, by the mercy of heaven, the flood wafted the shallop into the imagined harbour; but what was your despair, when you heard the pilot cry out, *Lord, be merciful, my eyes never saw this place before!*—Again you are relieved, when you found the boat safely rowed off from the breakers, that threatened her, into a fair sound, and the pilgrims getting under the lee of yonder island.'*

Surely a man, who is ambitious of literary distinction, should be ashamed of such a style as this. We were indeed very much "relieved," and were extremely glad, without any expectation of it, to find ourselves, all at once, so comfortably and calmly sheltered "under the lee of yonder island," after the fury of the

*Unâ Euræque Notusque
clamorque virum stridorque
rudentum.*

However, we were still more "relieved," and much more recon-

cited to the author, when, under the next general head, we read the following tribute of respect to the late Dr. Belknap :

‘Why should I detain you, either to prove or to illustrate the disinterested philanthropy and paternal condescension of Carver ; the profound wisdom and exemplary moderation of Bradford ; the unaffected modesty and patriarchal simplicity of Brewster ; the prudent activity and persevering services of Cushman ; the pre-eminent abilities and inflexible integrity of Winslow ; the daring intrepidity and heroick achievements of Standish ! These illustrious names, and the merits attached to them, are entirely familiar to you ; nor would faithful tradition, or your more faithful records, ever suffer them to pass into oblivion. To a tablet, however, less perishable than either of these, are their names committed ; and it ought to heighten the pleasures of this day to reflect, that a biographer, worthy of them, has at length been found. While faithful narrative, discriminating remark, and purity of style, continue to be universally pleasing, the fathers of New-England will live in the pages of Belknap.’

But, that the contrasts may be striking in this rough-wrought piece of Mosack, in answer to the third inquiry, is given the platform of church discipline, with the articles of religious creed, subscribed to by our forefathers. Of this division we only remark, that it would have been quite as interesting, subjoined in a note. It is making a discourse truly a farrago ; it is introducing arguments, when they are least likely to be attended to, and when an audience require a restorative of some kind or other, after being, as in this instance, drowsily dragged through a dull, dry, dreary piece of narration.

On the whole, this discourse may well be compared to the earth, as described by an ancient poet : “ Its greater part,” says he, “ is covered by the uninhabitable ocean ; of the

rest, some is encumbered with naked mountains, and some lost under barren sands ; some scorched with unremitting heat, and some petrified with perpetual frost ; so that only a small portion is left for the production of fruits, the pasture of cattle, and the accommodation of man.”

ART. 3.

An inaugural oration, delivered in the chapel of Williams College, Oct. 14, 1806. By Gamaliel S. Olds, A.M. professor of mathematics and natural philosophy—Stockbridge, Willard. 1806.

In this address the professor explains “ the importance of mathematical and philosophical science.” The style is perspicuous, and animated, and the illustrations are happily selected. It sometimes seems almost too lively and poetick for a teacher of the mathematics ; and we presume the author neglected to calculate with accuracy the effect of a metaphor, even in his first sentence. “ The great Father of our spirits has formed the mind of man for improvement, and inspired him with an ardent thirst for knowledge.”— He had probably in his mind the sublime sentiment of Job, *the inspiration of the Almighty hath given him understanding*. But no man can reasonably be grateful, that he is inspired with burning thirst.

One other sentence seems objectionable, but the author’s correctness would have spared us the mention of an anti-climax, had he re-perused the address after the ardour of composition had abated. “ It is the sublime employment of the natural philosopher to investi-

gate by observation and accurate experiment the laws of the material system, measure with mathematical precision their power and extent, designate their application to the useful purposes of life, and explain the phenomena of the system." Surely the last member of this sentence has usurped the place which was due to the preceding; for the advantage of science must be its application to the useful purposes of life.

But we wish, that every oration, sermon, address, speech, et hoc genus omne, with which our country swarms, contained as much good sense, conveyed in as pure a style, as the pamphlet now before us. After naming Bacon and Newton, the great masters of experimental philosophy, the professor proceeds,

'Subsequent adventurers, inheriting the spirit of their fathers, and animated by generous emulation, have explored new regions in the physical world. The hand of electrical philosophy has drawn aside the modest veil of nature, and shown us that sea of liquid fire in which we walk, and which is prepared at the word of the Almighty, to burn up the earth and the works therein, and melt the elements with fervent heat. The persevering researches of the chemist have taught us the composition of some of those elastic fluids, by which the earth is shaken to its centre, and guilty nations punished with ruin.'

Against the old atheistical notion of the eternity and consequent self-existence of matter, we find an argument, that has never been better urged, and is certainly irresistible.

'But it was not the design of God, that the material system should bear the stamp of eternal duration. No, those philosophers, who resort to this, as the last resource of labouring infi-

delity, have no hold. By the accurate observation of astronomers it appears, that the circles of planetary motion gradually diminish. Consequently, if the universe be supposed eternal, all the planets by this convergency, however small in a few thousand years, must long since have fallen into the sun, and the whole system [have] perished in one undistinguished mass.'

ART. 4.

The First Church Collection of Sacred Musick. Second edition.

— Look, how the floor of heaven
Is thick inlaid with patterns of bright gold;
'Tis not the smallest orb, which thou behold'st,
But in his motion like an angel sings,
Still quiring to the young-eyed cherubim:
Such harmony in immortal souls! SHAKS.

Boston, Thomas & Andrews.
Sept. 1806. pp. 135.

WE have examined this work, with no inconsiderable solicitude, to discover the proofs of a better taste, than has hitherto prevailed in our country, in selecting musick for devotional occasions. That grave and solemn compositions are proper for the publick worship of the Deity, every one must confess, who has any sense of the decorum which belongs to time, place, and occasion. The heart, which is impressed with a sense of imperfection, which is penitent for its errors, which is most desirous to appease the displeasure of heaven, and which aspires after a happy immortality, will never employ the lively and unmeaning strains of a ballad in its ascriptions of praise to the Supreme Being. But though all sacred musick is designed for solemn occasions, and therefore every thing gay, trifling, and expressive of levity, ought to be excluded from publick worship; yet

selections of psalmody should combine with the excellencies of composition all the varieties of grave, plaintive, and cheerful airs.

Massachusetts and Connecticut have been deluged with original compositions in musick; and if we should judge of their merit from their number, we in truth excel all the nations of Europe and all the ages of antiquity in the art. We must confess, that we have no Handel, for the honour of whose birth seven cities might contend: but every city and every village in our country boasts of its Handel, and presents you a monument of his fame

Ere perennius.

American tunes are not to be used in our churches, because they are of domestick origin; nor ought any of them to be rejected for the same reason. It must be confessed, that but few of them bear the marks of genius and taste, like the little tune called *Brookfield*, which is ascribed to *Billings*. So long as sound can express the feelings of the affectionate heart, this will continue to be used with increasing delight, at the commemoration of the supper. Those pieces which have been used for a long course of time, and which, though often repeated, always vibrate pleasantly on the ear, must possess merit in the *harmony*, as well as in the *air*. Musical compositions, like other species of writings, depend for existence, and long life and fame, on their intrinsic excellence. A prejudice against American compositions as such, is illiberal, unphilosophical, and contrary to the spirit of patriotism. But sorry are we to say, that, with but few exceptions, the mass of American

compositions in this art, is deficient in the soul of harmony, and as it is of the earth, it is fast returning to its original dust.

We are happy to be able, on a careful inspection, to speak well of this collection. The tunes which are taken from American authors, are, in general, of a respectable character. But some of them, particularly *Confidence* and *Coronation* must have been admitted more from a charitable tenderness to the opinion of the multitude, than from any genius or taste to be discovered in their composition. Most of the pieces are from European masters, and published, as far as we can judge, particularly in the *tenor* and *bass*, without alteration from the original.* This circumstance entitles the work to some considerable praise, when it is recollected, that, according to the dishonest practice of the times, you scarcely meet with an American edition of a European work in its true original dress. This barbarous practice has more particularly prevailed in the republication of foreign musick. It is a practice derogatory to our national character, and as it is not to be tolerated in a civilized country, it will not, we hope, in future, pass with impunity.

We feel great pleasure in recommending this, and also "the Salem Collection of Classical Sacred Musick," a work of most respectable character, to the use of our Churches. They are calculated to inspire a chaste taste for the art, and to aid the spirit of devotion.

* We notice that *HABBAKUK* is altered in the time, and that there are some notes displaced in *ITALY*.

CATALOGUE

OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.
For JANUARY, 1807.*Sunt bona, sunt quedam mediocria, sunt mala plura.*—MART.

NEW WORKS.

Law.

Reports of cases argued and adjudged in the supreme court of the United States, in February term, 1804, and February term, 1805. Vol. II. By William Cranch, chief justice of the circuit court of the district of Columbia. *Potius ignoratio juris litigioso est, quam scientia.* CIC. DE LEGIB.—8vo. pp. 446. New York, Isaac Riley & Co. Lexitypographic Press.

Trial of Thomas O. Selfridge, attorney at law, before the Hon. Isaac Parker, Esq. for killing Charles Austin, on the Publick Exchange in Boston, Aug. 4, 1806: Taken in short hand, by T. Lloyd, Esq. reporter of the debates of congress, and Geo. Caines, Esq. late reporter to the state of New-York, and sanctioned by the court, and reporter to the state. Copy right secured. 8vo. pp. 168. \$1 in boards. Boston, Russell & Cutler, Belcher & Armstrong, Oliver & Munroe, and W. Blagrove.

A correct statement of the whole preliminary controversy between Thos. O. Selfridge, Esq. and Benj. Austin; also a brief account of the catastrophe in State-Street, on the 4th of August, 1806: with some remarks. By Thos. O. Selfridge. *He takes my life, when he doth take the means whereby I live.*—Shakes. 8vo. pp. 52. Charlestown, Samuel Etheridge.

Physick.

Medical Papers, communicated to the Massachusetts Medical Society: to which is prefixed a list of their officers. Published by the Society. No. II. Part 1st. Containing 1. Medical Discourse on several Narcotic Plants, by Dr. Fisher. 2. Case of Ruptured Uterus, by Dr. Prescott. 3. Of Dislocation and Fracture, by Dr. Hazeltine. 4. Of preternatural Retention of Urine, by Dr. Thatcher. 5. History of a Wound in the femoral Artery, by Dr. Warren, jun. 6. Some Observations on Worms infest-

ing the Human Body; by Dr. Fisher. 8vo. pp. 56. Salem, Joshua Cushing.

Education.

The Arts and Sciences abridged, with a selection of pieces from celebrated modern authors, calculated to improve the manners and refine the taste of youth; particularly designed and arranged for the use of schools. By Charles Pierce, compiler of the American Citizen, Portsmouth Miscellany, &c. Published according to act of congress. 12mo. pp. 216. Portsmouth, N. H. for the compiler, Pierce & Gardner, printers. Elements of Useful Knowledge, Vol. III. By Noah Webster, Esq. 12mo. pp. 300. \$1.50.

Divinity.

Strictures on Seven Sermons, with an appendix, by Rev. Daniel Merrill, on the mode and subjects of Baptism. In twelve sections. By Joseph Field, A. M. pastor of the church in Charlemon. pp. 88. Northampton, T. M. Pomroy.

The Baptism of Believers only, and the particular communion of the Baptist churches explained and vindicated. In three parts. The first published originally in 1789; the second in 1794; the third, an appendix, containing additional observations and arguments, with strictures on several late publications. By Thomas Baldwin. 12mo. pp. 336. Boston, Manning & Loring.

The Deity of Jesus Christ essential to the christian religion; a treatise on the divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ, written originally in French. By James Abbadie, D. D. and Dean of Killaloe, in Ireland. A new edition of the English translation—revised, corrected, and, in a few places, abridged. By Abraham Booth, A. M. pastor of a baptist church, London. 12mo. pp. 324. Burlington, New Jersey; Ustick, printer.

An Epitome of Ecclesiastical History. By David S. Rowland, late minister of the 1st church in Windham. Hartford, Lincoln & Gleason.

Christianity Displayed, or a rational view of the great scripture doctrine of Redemption and Salvation, through Jesus Christ—together with some practical observations. By a Citizen of Baltimore. 8vo. 25 cts.

Charity recommended from the social state of man—a Discourse, delivered before the Salem Female Charitable Society, Sept. 17, 1806. By Rev. John Prince, LL.D. Salem, Joshua Cushing. 8vo. pp. 39.

The Christian Banner. A sermon, preached before the Lincoln Baptized Association, and at their request made publick. By Daniel Merrill, A. M. pastor of the church of Christ in Sedgewick. 12mo. Boston, Manning & Loring.

A Sermon, preached July 13, 1805, at the funeral of Mrs. Lydia Fisk, late consort of the Rev. Elisha Fisk, pastor of the church in Wrentham. By Nath'l Emmons, p. d. pastor of the church in Franklin. Dedham, H. Mann.

A Discourse, delivered next Lord's day after the interment of Deacon Peter Whiting, who departed this life, Dec. 9, 1805, in the 60th year of his age. By Nathanael Emmons, p. d. pastor of the church in Franklin. Providence, Heaton & Williams.

A Discourse before the society for propagating the gospel among the Indians and others, in North America, delivered Nov. 6, 1806. By Thomas Barnard, p. d. minister of the north church in Salem. Charlestown, Sam'l Etheridge.

A Sermon, delivered Sept. 14, 1806, at the interment of Mrs. Rachel Smith, relict of the late Hon. Thos. Smith, Esq. who died Sept. 12, in the 74th year of her age. By Henry Lincoln, minister of the congregational church in Falmouth, Barnstable county. Boston, E. Lincoln.

A Sermon, delivered by Ezra Stiles Ely, on the first Sabbath after his ordination. Hartford, Lincoln & Gleason.

An account of the Massachusetts Society for promoting christian knowledge—Published by order of the society.—Cambridge, W. Hilliard. pp. 44.

Poetry.

The Trial of Virtue, a sacred poem; being a paraphrase of the whole book of Job, and designed as an explanatory comment upon the divine original, interspersed with critical notes upon a variety of its passages. In six parts. To which is annexed, a dissertation on

the book of Job. By Rev. Chauncey Lee, A. M. pastor of a church in Colebrook. Hartford, Lincoln & Gleason.

Orations.

An Inaugural Oration, delivered in the chapel of Williams College, Oct. 4th, 1806. By Gamaliel S. Olds, A. M. professor of Mathematicks and Natural Philosophy. Published at the request of the audience. 8vo. Stockbridge, H. Willard. Dec. 1806.

An Oration, pronounced at Littleton, July 4, 1806, the 31st anniversary of American Independence. By Edmund Foster, A. M. minister of the gospel at Littleton. Cambridge, W. Hilliard.

Miscellaneous.

Remarks on the Rights of Inventors; and the influence of their studies in promoting the enjoyments of life, and publick prosperity. 8vo. pp. 61. Boston, E. Lincoln. 1807.

An account of the Massachusetts State Prison. Containing a description and plan of the edifice; the law, regulations, rules, and orders; with a view of the present state of the institution. By the Board of Visitors. Charlestown, Sam'l Etheridge.

....
NEW EDITIONS.

Miscellaneous.

Vol. III. Part I. of Rees' New Cyclopaedia, or Dictionary of Arts and Sciences. 4to. \$3,50 for the half-volume. Philadelphia, Samuel F. Bradford. L. Blake, Boston.

Vol. I. of *Extra Πνευμα*, or the Biversions of Purley. By John Horne Tooke. Large 8vo. \$2,50 boards. Philadelphia, Wm. Duane.

The Stranger in Ireland, or a tour in the southern and western parts of that country, in the year 1805. By John Carr, Esq. author of the Stranger in France, &c. To which is now first added, an Appendix, containing an account of Thomas Dermody, the Irish poet, a wonderful instance of prematurity of genius. 12mo. pp. 334. New York, Riley & Co. \$1,50 in boards.

The poetical works of David Hitchcock; comprising, The Shade of Plato, or a defence of religion, morality, and government; in four parts. Also, The Knight and Quack, or a looking-glass for impostors in physick, philosophy, and government. Together with The Subtlety of Foxes, a fable. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

Vyse's Tutor's Guide; being a complete system of Arithmetick, with various branches in the mathematicks. In six parts. Philadelphia, P. Byrne, &c.

Johnson's Dictionary of the English language in miniature. To which are added, an alphabetical account of the heathen deities, and other fabulous persons; with the heroes and heroines of antiquity, &c. By the Rev. J. Hamilton. Second American edition. 18mo. pearl type. \$1,12, bound. Boston, W. Andrews.

Principles of Politeness, and of knowing the world. By the late Lord Chesterfield. With additions by the Rev. John Trusler. Containing every instruction necessary to complete the gentleman and man of fashion, to teach him a knowledge of life, and make him well received in all companies. 12mo. pp. 166. Boston, E. & J. Larkin.

A Letter to his royal highness the Prince of Wales, concerning his moral and political conduct. By Crito. Written at Islington, Eng. Sept. 1806. New York, S. Gould. 25 cts.

Law.

A summary of the law of Set-off: with an appendix of cases argued and determined in the courts of law and equity upon that subject. By Basil Montagu, Esq. of Gray's Inn, Barrister at Law. 8vo. pp. 60. Law binding. New-York, printed by and for I. Riley & Co. Lexitypographick Press. 1806.

The Maritime Law of Europe. By M. D. A. Azuni, late senator and judge in the commercial and maritime court of Nice, &c. &c. *Quid deceat, quid non; quo virtus, quo ferat error.*—*Hor. de Art. Poet.* In two vols. Translated from the French. 8vo. vol. I. pp. 524; vol. II. pp. 439. New-York, printed by George Forman, for Isaac Riley & Co.

The celebrated trial of Murdy Gurdy for a seditious libel, with the whole of the evidence of French Hons, the arguments of counsel, and the learned judge's charge to the jury. Price 37½ cts. New-York, Bernard Dornin.

The Trial, Condemnation, and Execution, of Richard Patch, for the murder of Mr. Isaac Blight; at a court held at the Surrey Quarter Sessions in England. 12mo. pp. 35. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

Divinity.

The Family Expositor, or a paraphrase and version of the New Testament; with critical notes, and a practical im-

provement of each section. In 6 vols. Vol. 1, containing the former part of the history of our Lord Jesus Christ, as recorded by the four Evangelists—disposed in the order of an harmony. By P. Doddridge, D.D. to which is prefixed, A Life of the author, by Andrew Kippis, D. D. F. R. S. and S. A. 8vo. pp. 942. Charlestown, S. Etheridge.

The Life of God in the Soul of Man, or the nature and excellency of the christian religion. By Henry Scougal, A.M. To which are prefixed, memoirs of the author. Boston, E. Lincoln.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Law.

A faithful report of the trial of the cause of Philip I. Aretularius vs. Wm. Coleman, Gent. being an action for a libel. Taken in short hand, by William Sampson, Esq. and given to the publick at the request of some of his friends. New-York, Bernard Dornin.

Snyden's Treatise of the law of vendors and purchasers of estates. Philadelphia, W. P. Farrand.

An abridgement of the laws of Nisi Prius. Part I. Philadelphia, Farrand.

Poetry.

The Wanderer in Switzerland, and other Poems. By James Montgomery. 12mo. New York, S. Stansbury.

Biography.

Life of the Hon. Charles James Fox. Interspersed with a great number of original anecdotes. By B. C. Walpole, Esq. New-York, Ezra Sargeant.

Mr. William Farrand of Philadelphia is about putting to press Bacon's Abridgment, to be printed from the new and improved edition of this work, the last volume of which is just finished in London;—Harrison's Chancery Practice, with additions and several new precedents, by W. Parker;—Douglas's Reports;—Tidd's Practice of the Court of King's Bench in personal actions, principally from the new edition, enlarged and corrected by the author;—and Cowper's Reports of Cases in King's Bench, from 14 Geo. III. to 18 Geo. III. from the new London edition. Several of the above works will be published with new references to the latter English Reports, and also to reports of decisions in the United States.

Messrs. Riley & Co. of New York will publish in the course of the pres-

ent week Powell on Devises ; Volume First of Johnson's New York Term Reports ; and Part I. of the Second

Volume of the same work. They have just published Smith and Ogden's Trial before the Circuit Court.

INTELLIGENCE.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Paris to the editors. 3d Oct. 1806.

"As to the state of literature here I can only tell you, that a man may be a great scholar in England and pass for a fool in France, so different are the pursuits of the two countries. Villoison, you know, is dead ; and I very much doubt whether there is another man in Paris who knows Greek enough to understand Lycophron or Eschylus. The price of newly printed books at the stores here is sufficiently dear ; but in the bye streets such as the Passage des Jacobins you may pick them up for nothing. I have just bought a very fine copy of Stephens' Greek Thesaurus for 100 livres. A stained copy is marked in Lum's catalogue 10 guineas. Such is the difference between London and Paris. Indeed I was talking yesterday with a master of the Greek and Latin languages in the Polytechnick school, who did not even know that there was such a book in the world as Stephens' Thesaurus.

Elgin Botanical Catalogue.

The proprietor of the Botanical Garden near the city of New-York has published from the press of Messrs. Swords, in a duodecimo pamphlet of 29 pages, "A Catalogue of Plants contained in the Botanical Garden at Elgin, near the city of New-York, established in 1801." It appears from this, that within the five years since this collection was begun, about seventeen hundred species of vegetables, indigenous and exotic, have been placed within the walls of the garden. The scientific names only are printed ; as the present edition is chiefly intended to give information to Botanists abroad, that they may know what to send to the

proprietor, and also what to expect in return. When the number of species shall become more numerous, and more worthy of the general notice of his fellow citizens, it is his intention to give another edition, with the proper English and vulgar names ; to distinguish such as are useful in the arts, in medicine, and in agriculture ; and such as are poisonous to man and other animals, and noxious to the former. We learn with pleasure that he meditates also observations on the qualities of certain species ; with engravings and descriptions of such new ones as may from time to time be discovered ; after the manner of the *Hortus Kewensis*. In the short preface to the list, the reader will find the author's recital of his views and progress ; of the great objects in natural history and education he has in contemplation ; and of the principal benefactors to his conservatory, hot-house, and garden.

Curious Observations on Light, during the late total Eclipse of the Sun. From a Letter of the Rev. Eliphalet Nott, D. D. President of Union College, to the Rev. Samuel Miller, D. D. dated Schenectady, October 6, 1806, and communicated by the learned Writer to Dr. Mitchell.

"At the instant the last direct ray was intercepted, and the obscuration became total, a tremulous undulating shadow, a kind of indescribable alternate prevalence and intermixture of light and shade, struck the earth, and played on its surface, which gave to the most stable objects the semblance of agitation.

"It appeared as though the moon rode unsteadily in her orbit, and the earth seemed to tremble on its axis. The deception was so com-

plete, that I felt instinctively, and, in spite of the dictates of my reason to the contrary, a tottering motion. Some who were present I observed catching hold of whatever was near them for support, while others leaning forward, and insensibly flung themselves into an attitude which indicated that they found it difficult to stand.

"At the commencement of this singular phenomenon, and while the surface of the earth appeared to be violently agitated, the light and shade were irregularly intermixed, and each seemed struggling for victory. In about five seconds the darkness prevailed. The light and shade suddenly separated into alternate and distinct arches. Instantly the arches of shade began to force the arches of light from us towards the horizon. The motion at first was very rapid; the alternate arches were narrow, and followed each other in close succession; the motion gradually diminished; the streaks of light became less and less distinct for about fifteen seconds, when melting into each other, the appearance ceased, and a settled gloom ensued.

"The scenes described at the commencement of the total obscuration re-appeared when the first direct rays of the sun were re-appearing. The same apparent agitation of the surface of the earth; the same apparent struggle between the light and darkness; the same separation between light and shade into distinct and alternate arches, and the same motion reversed; for now the arches of light seemed to crowd those of shade inward, and the whole movement was from the horizon towards the centre, which continued about the same time, and disappeared in the same manner as above described.

"A lake at first violently agitated by something flung into its centre, and sending its undulating waves to its circumference, furnishes a pretty correct idea of the appearance the surface of the earth assumed when the total eclipse

commenced; and, if after the first agitation of the lake had subsided, its undulating waves were to roll from the circumference to the centre, and especially could they alternately be tinged with light and shade, it would furnish not an incorrect idea of the appearance of the earth when the total obscuration ended.

"How is this phenomenon to be accounted for? When the direct rays ceased, why should the shadow on the earth appear agitated? Has this circumstance been noticed elsewhere, or in records of other total eclipses? If that part of the moon's orb which intercepted the last direct rays of the sun were an ocean, and tempested with a storm at the time, would not the effect have been similar to that described?"

STATEMENT OF DISEASES,

&c. from Dec. 20 to Jan. 20.

The weather during this month has been cold and clear, with short periods of interruption. The winds have varied only from one western point to another, except on two or three days. The thermometer has ranged between 48° and — 2°.

Inflammatory diseases have prevailed as usual at this season. The attacks of *pneumonic inflammation* have been more severe in adults than last year; at least so far as we can judge from those which have hitherto appeared. Those in children have yielded more readily. *Cyanche tonsillar* has been quite prevalent; and *cyanche farotidea* appears to be epidemic. Many cases of *pleurodyne* have been seen, and some of acute *rheumatism*. In the former part of the month, there was a considerable mortality among aged persons—Some were carried off by a kind of pneumonic affection, others by disorders of the alimentary canal, which sometimes terminated in *palsy* and *apoplexy*.

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY

FOR
FEBRUARY, 1807.

For the Anthology.

CLASSICAL LITERATURE.

THE coincidence between the two great Poets of Antiquity has been so often touched upon by eminent writers, that it may be deemed presumption even to attempt, what they have left unattempted. However, it is believed that the time is not wholly lost, nor the labour entirely thrown away, if the avowal of even an *erroneous opinion* provoke abler pens to investigation and scrutiny. The literary culprit, whose aims are detected and exposed, may feel his confidence humbled; but the commonwealth of letters gains stability by the conviction.

To discover *novelty in things ancient* has been the constant aim of learned men from the days of remote antiquity to the present. Virgil, who was fed by the munificence of Augustus, was undoubtedly anxious to employ his Muse on a subject, that would ensure to him the future confidence of that monarch. This could not have been done in any manner more effectually, than by giving the popular tale, that Æneas was the founder of the Roman empire, the sanction of his muse. He accordingly takes Homer for his guide

throughout, models his ideas on the Roman scale, and executes the most finished piece of flattery to his countrymen and their monarch, that the world ever saw. It is suggested as a probable conjecture, that the *following passage from the Iliad first gave to the Mantuan bard a glimpse of his project*. The reader will pardon me for having recourse only to Mr. Pope's translation, as the original is not now in my possession; but if he will take the trouble to recur to it, he will find that the translator has not exceeded the limits of his province. During the rencounter between Achilles and Æneas, while the life of the latter hero is in the most imminent danger, a conversation ensues between the two deities in waiting, Juno and Neptune, on the propriety of his rescue. Juno, with characteristic malevolence, declines any interference whatever; but Neptune, less inexorable, exclaims:

'And can ye see this righteous chief
atone
With guiltless blood for vices not his own?
To all the gods his constant vows are paid,
Sure, tho' he wars for Troy, he claims our
aid.

*Fate wills not this, nor thus can Jove
reign*

The future father of the Dardan line.

The first great ancestor obtain'd his
grace,
And still his love descends to all his
race.

For Priam now, and Priam's faithless
kind,

At length are odious to the All-seeing
mind.

*On great Æneas shall devolve the reign,
And sons succeeding sons the lasting line
sustain.'*

Here seems something like supernatural authority for the tradition, on which Virgil built his poem. Æneas is described as a man of extraordinary piety to the gods, and one whom the fates have ordained to be the future founder of a powerful empire. Neptune, then, in pursuance of his resolution, rescues Æneas from danger :

' Swift interpos'd between the warrior's
eyes,
And casts thick darkness o'er Achilles'
eyes.'

After having conveyed him to a place of security, he leaves him with a gentle admonition not to provoke in future an arm so much superiour to his own. Homer, at the same time he informs us that Æneas did not venture on the combat without supernatural assistance, to raise the character of Achilles still higher in our estimation, gives us to understand that all such help is unavailing :

' Lo! on the brink of fate Æneas stands,
An instant victim to Achilles' hands ;
By Phœbus urg'd ; but Phœbus has be-
stow'd
*His aid in vain ; the man o'erpowers the
god.'*

That the muse of Virgil did not pass over this remarkable passage "intacto pede," is manifest. Neptune *once* in the *Iliad*, and *twice* in the *Æneid*, preserves Æneas from imminent danger. When

he does this kind office for the last time, he expressly refers to what he had formerly done. These are his words :

..... ' Cum Troia Achilles,
Examinata sequem impingeret agmina
muris
Millia multa daret letho ; gement-
que repleti
Amnes nec reperire viam ; atque evol-
vene pascit
In mare se Xanthus Pelidæ ; tum ego
forti
Congressum Æneadem nec diis nec viribus
eguis
Nube cava eripui.'

Dryden's translation of the passage runs thus :

' These Xanthus, and thee Simois I at-
test !
Your Trajan troops when proud Achil-
les preat ;
And drove before him headlong on
the plain,
And dash'd against their walls the
trembling train,
When floods were fill'd with bodies
of the slain :
When crimson Xanthus, doubtful of
his way,
Stood up on ridges to behold the sea,
New heaps came tumbling in and
choak'd his way ;
When your Æneas fought ; but fought
with odds,
Of force unequal, and unequal gods ;
I spread a cloud before the warrior's sight,
Sustain'd the vanquish'd, and secur'd his
flight.'

In no other part of the *Iliad*, than the one above quoted, is Æneas described as a man of uncommon piety ; neither is there in any other instance the slightest intimation given, that he was to be the founder of a future empire. In that passage *both of these qualities are particularly pointed out.* We have further to consider, that Neptune, the preserver of Æneas, was decidedly averse to the success of the Trojan arms, and employed all the influence of his divinity to succour their enemies. Virgil

deemed this so brilliant a plume on the head of his hero, that he employs Neptune twice in the same benevolent office. He still makes his godship declare, that his ancient hostility to Troy continues unabated, while he is still solicitous to preserve one of her most celebrated heroes :

‘Cuperem cum vertere ad imo
Structa meis manibus perjuræ mœnia
Trojæ,

Nunc, quoq; mem eadem prestat mihi?

‘Even then secur’d him when I sought
with joy

The vow’d destruction of ungrateful
Troy;

My will’s the same.’

In the speech, which Homer puts into the mouth of Neptune is described the two qualities of the Trojan hero, which Virgil improves afterwards so much to his advantage. He is every where the *pious Æneas*; he is all along forewarned by the fates, that he is to be the father of a *mighty people*.

To fortify the supposition that Virgil drew his first outline of Æneas from the above passage in Homer, we have, then, the evidence of his employing the same deity twice for the same end; we have the evidence of his expressly referring to that very passage, which explicitly predicts what Virgil brings to pass. The beautiful vision of Æneas in the Elysian fields, where he beholds his future race passing in review, may be considered as nothing more than a *poetical recognition of Homer’s ideas*. By so considering the question, the two great masters of the lyre preserve harmony with each other, and Homer himself may be said to have *passed a panegyric on Augustus*.

It may not be improper here to notice a criticism of Lord Kaims, although not immediately connec-

ted with the present subject. His Lordship, in the first volume of his *Elements of Criticism*, thus expresses himself. “An episode in a narrative poem, being in fact an accessory, demands not that strict union with the principal subject, which is requisite between an whole and its constituent parts: it demands, however, a degree of union, such as ought to subsist between a principal and accessory, and therefore will not be graceful, if it is barely connected with the principal subject. I give for an example the descent of Æneas into hell, which occupies the 6th book of the Æneid; the reader is not prepared for the important event. No cause is assigned, that can make it appear necessary, or even natural, to suspend for a time the principal action in its most interesting period. The poet can find no pretext for an adventure so extraordinary, but the hero’s longing desire to visit the ghost of his father, recently dead. In the mean time the story is interrupted, and the reader loses his ardour. Pity it is, that an episode, so extremely beautiful, were not more happily introduced.”

His lordship, in his selection of the 6th Book of the Æneid as an object for his censure, is peculiarly unfortunate. It was so necessary to the completion of Virgil’s design, that his whole poem would have been uninteresting to the Romans, if that vision was omitted. It has been already stated, that it was the design of the poet to flatter the vanity of his countrymen, by giving a kind of supernatural sanction to a questionable historical fact, that Æneas was the founder of Rome. The poet, therefore, employs the machinery of his poem for that purpose, and to impress it on the mind of Æne-

as beyond all doubt, he gratifies him with a view of his future descendants. Amongst these the poet has taken especial care to represent the heroes of his country, and Augustus himself, who was more particularly the object of his adulation.

*‘Hic vir, hic est tibi quem promitti
sapius audis
Augustus Cæsar; Divi genus: aurea
condit
Secula qui rursus Latio, regnata per
arva.’*

In no other manner was it possible for the poet to have accomplished, so effectually, his end. What then his lordship means by his assertion, that “no cause is assigned, that can make it appear necessary, or even natural, to suspend for a time the principal action in its most interesting period,” it is difficult to comprehend. His “principal action” was to settle Æneas in Italy; and no stronger inducement could be offered to fix his wavering mind into that determination, than by making him become the spectator of the future glories of his race. The episode, therefore, is so artfully introduced, as to answer a twofold purpose, to raise the ambition of Æneas, and to gratify the vanity of the Roman people by a most elegant compliment. His lordship is equally unfortunate in his assertion, that the “poet can find no pretext for an adventure so extraordinary, but the hero’s desire to visit the ghost of his father, recently dead.” Anchises, in the 5th Book, explicitly promises him this interview with his posterity, if he would comply with his injunction and visit the fields of Elysium. *‘Tum genus omne tuum, et quædenter mania disces.’* That this interview was necessary to fix Æneas in his purpose is evident from his

having passed so much of his time in wanton dalliance with Dido, notwithstanding he had been forewarned by fate, that Italy was the part of his destination. Anchises seems to have a delicate allusion to this, when he asks him in the Elysian fields,

*‘An dubitamus adhuc virtutem extendere factes?
Aut metus Ausonia prohibet consistere terra?’*

This previous irresolution and incredulity of Æneas is finely imagined by the poet to make this vision the more indispensable. Afterwards he is no longer troubled by doubts and misgivings, but lands in Italy, and fights his battles with confidence. That “the reader is not prepared for that important event,” as his lordship suggests, is acknowledged; and from hence results novelty and surprise infinitely more acceptable to the mind, than if it had anticipated that event. If this is the ground of his lordship’s hostility, that “the mind of the reader is unprepared for the event,” every passage in every volume, which cannot be anticipated by the reader before perusal, is subject to a similar reprobation, and which, because it could be anticipated, would render it unnecessary to be read. The real question is not whether “the mind of the reader is prepared for the passage,” but whether, “after the passage is read, any incongruity can be discovered between that, and what goes before, or follows after. This is not even pretended by his lordship. Neither is the assertion correct, that “the reader loses his ardour.”—When such great events are foretold, as were foretold to Æneas in vision, and which were all to be accomplished by the landing of that hero in

Italy, the reader feels an *increased anxiety* for his arrival at the theatre of such mighty exploit. Nay, so strong is the interest, excited in consequence of this vision, that the mind feels disposed to forgive the treachery and turpitude of the Trojan prince to Dido; his subsequent victory over the injured Turnus; and charges all his own treachery and ingratitude on the *fates*. The poet, by interweaving this vision in his poem, has contrived an artful apology for his

hero, by representing him, not as the *agent* of his own *chain*, but an *organ* in the hands of the *Gods*. Without such intervention, the crimes of Æneas would have received what they merited, the censure, instead of the applause of the reader. It is therefore concluded, in the language of the *noble critick*, that "this episode has such a degree of union with the principal subject, as ought to subsist between a principal and accessory."

R.

DESCRIPTION

OF THE NEW EXCHANGE-HALL AT HAMBURGH.

BY M. GERHARD VON HOSSTRUP.

HAMBURGH contains various places of resort for profit and pleasure, such as the Exchange, the Patriotick Society, the Harmony, different clubs, coffee-houses, &c. In other cities, far inferior in rank to Hamburg, we find, besides these, a Museum, or some other new place of resort erected, to which the higher classes of the inhabitants repair for the purpose of either deriving mutual profit, or enjoying recreation in the perusal of the publick journals and new books, or in conversation and other social amusements.

At Hamburg the places of publick resort are numerous, but they are partly periodical, partly confined to a limited circle, and to particular objects. In houses for general accommodation, where no bond of social union exists, the foreigner, and frequently the native too, is obliged to seek amusement within himself alone. Many celebrated houses are not calculated for the grave, sober man;

and other establishments, as they grow old, no longer afford conveniences adapted to the necessities of modern times and manners.

The Exchange alone retains its general interest and dignity unimpaired. But the greatness of this name, which creates the idea of an immense correspondence, and the most extensive operation on all the quarters of the globe, is to be ascribed solely to the assemblage of merchants and men of business, and not to the place itself, for, excepting at the time when they meet, it is open for admission to all descriptions of people.

The defects of the Exchange at Hamburg are so notorious, that I shall not attempt to enumerate them here. I shall only notice the want of room, the want of covering, and the inconvenience and uncertainty of meeting with any person out of the regular exchange hours, because these circumstances are connected with

the remedy I have sought to apply by means of an Exchange-hall. Even during exchange-hours the merchant frequently stands in need of a neighbouring place of resort, either for shelter, partly to meet others on particular business, &c. ; in short he wishes for a place to serve for the same purposes as the celebrated Lloyd's Subscription Coffee-house in London.

Being intimately acquainted with the places of resort at Hamburgh, I was daily more convinced that they were much too small for the magnitude of the city, and that a far more extensive plan would be required to form on a large scale for that respectable place what other towns possess only on a small one. I imparted my ideas to some friends, men of the highest respectability, of the most fervent patriotism, and animated with the most sincere desire to promote the honour and splendour of our small but happy republic. They not only encouraged by their approbation my wishes to become the founder of an establishment commensurate with the dignity and commercial relations of Hamburgh, but furnished me with new ideas, and thus brought to maturity the plan which, in the year 1802, I had the honour to submit to my mercantile fellow-citizens.

The publick spirit which particularly distinguishes the inhabitants of Hamburgh, and prompts them to support and execute with the greatest zeal whatever may tend to the profit or fame of their city, was now to decide the merits of my scheme. This decision I obtained in the course of a few days, in the completion of the number of subscribers I had demanded.

I could scarcely have experienced more honourable encouragement, and immediately proceeded to the execution of the plan, firmly resolved to spare neither pains nor expense to fulfil my promise and to satisfy, perhaps surpass, the general expectation.

This, however, more than doubled my estimate of expenses ; but I was justified in placing the firmest reliance on the patriotick spirit of Hamburgh, which never suffers even the greatest undertakings of this nature to fall to the ground for want of encouragement. I sought a resource for this in a considerable increase of the subscription-money. This measure I adopted with the greatest reluctance ; but I had the satisfaction to see that there was scarcely a single individual by whom it was not highly approved.

My wish was, to produce something unique in its kind, which was not borrowed from other towns, but which should itself serve for a model. A particular circumstance favoured my design, and confirmed my resolution to spare no expense.— This was the assistance of M. Ramée, a French architect settled at Hamburgh, an artist distinguished for his uncommon taste as well as for the novelty and comprehensiveness of his ideas, and who previous to the Revolution, had established himself as an architect at Paris. He devoted himself with zeal to the undertaking ; and I may with truth assert, that, had it not been for him and his connections, the work would not have been executed in that style in which it now appears.

Commenced with omens and circumstances so favourable, this important and useful work, the foundation of which I consider the

greatest merit of my life, is now completed. For any higher degree of perfection to which it may attain in the course of time, it will be solely indebted to the brilliant patriotism of Hamburgh, to the direction of which I invariably submit.

I shall now proceed to a brief description of the Exchange-hall. This structure is situated near the Exchange, in the street called *Böhenstrasse*. The façade is in an elegant style. The entrance has three arcades supported by columns of the Doric order, without pedestals. The steps run the whole breadth of the three arcades. The intervals of these arcades are decorated above the capitals with Genii holding garlands of flowers and fruits in *basso relievo*. Above the arcades are figures of Mercury's caduceus. The ends of the building are without windows. To the right and left of the flight of steps are the doors that lead to the ground floor of the building. The lower part of the arcades form a peristyle: to the right is the porter's-lodge, and to the left a stair-case, leading to the ball and concert room, in the second story, and to the balcony. This balcony is of the same dimensions as the peristyle above which it is situated; it is vaulted, and is twenty-two feet in diameter. The vaulting is divided into compartments decorated with roses and other ornaments. A niche between the arch and the windows of the concert-room is adorned with a *basso relievo* composed of five figures as large as life; namely, in the centre, Minerva and Mercury doing homage to Plenty. To the right is the river Elbe, under the usual form of a venerable old man; and on the left you perceive the Genius of Science, and that of

Commerce. The third or attick story terminates the façade, and is provided with a row of Doric pilasters, above which is a pediment.

I shall now conduct the reader into the interior of the building, and make him acquainted with the purpose and destination of each division.

From the peristyle, which has very large windows throughout its whole breadth, you go behind the centre arcade into the Hall, which is spacious, in a simple style, and decorated on each side with a row of single statues. Its length is eighty-four, and its breadth forty-two feet. This is the place which is appropriated to the general assemblage of merchants and men of business. Every thing that can contribute to convenience and utility is to be found here. A space in front, which is divided by a bar from the principal part of the hall, is for non-subscribers who may wish to speak to any of the subscribers, for which purpose they must address themselves to the porter. From the hall you proceed into several saloons and apartments, which are as follow.

The Egyptian Saloon, surrounded with columns of granite, surmounted with bronze capitals. The intervals between these columns are decorated with landscapes after the manner of a panorama, so as not to clash with the Egyptian costume. Adjoining to this are two rooms for the under-writer.

Two large rooms for coffee and billiards.

The Reading-room. Here are to be found all the newspapers and periodical works not only of all the countries of Europe, but even America and the Indies, which can directly or indirectly interest the merchant. Here too are kept

memoranda-books for posting occurrences, mercantile, political, &c.

The Library. To furnish this department with all the books necessary for commerce must be a work of time. Meanwhile a considerable number of address-books, topographies, dictionaries, maps, and other articles of a like kind, will be found here. The superintendance of the two last rooms has been undertaken by our patriotick countryman, Dr. Nimmich.

On the second floor, to the left of the great staircase, is an anti-room, with appropriate embellishments.

The Hall of Arts, whose name denotes its destination, and which is particularly adapted to the meetings of artists. In an establishment of this kind such a hall ought not by no means to be wanting. Five capital pictures here engage the attention, namely, Poetry, represented by Sappho, celebrated for her poetick genius, and her passion for Phaon;—Painting, by Alexander procuring a picture of his beloved, by the hand of the famous Apelles;—Sculpture by Pygmalion in love with the statue of a female executed by himself: Venus at his earnest intreaty animates the statue, and you see the head just beginning to assume the colours of life;—Architecture, by Laomedon, the son of Ilus, King of Phrygia, refusing, dishonestly enough, to pay Neptune and Apollo the sum he had promised them for rebuilding the walls of Troy;—and Musick, by Euterpe. Portraits of celebrated men who have distinguished themselves in these arts are exhibited in medallions over the respective pictures.

The great Concert and Ball-Room is sixty-four feet long,

forty-two broad, and thirty high. Eighteen light, ornamental marble columns, of the composite order, support a gallery, the access to which is by the great staircase. This hall is enriched with productions of painting and sculpture. Among the rest, at the farthest extremity of the hall, there is a master-piece of the the celebrated Le Sueur,—Apollo alighting from his car upon clouds, with his lyre in his left hand, and a wreath in his right. The ceiling of this hall represents the firmament studded with stars: in the centre, Aurora, standing erect upon clouds, is dispersing the shades of night, with the Hours by her side. The name of this hall denotes the purposes for which it is designed; but on particular occasions it may be used either for business or different kinds of amusements.

The Arabic Saloon is richly decorated after the manner of that ancient and celebrated people. It contains ten columns of mahogany with gilded capitals, and the intervals are occupied by six divans.

The Turkish Tent appears in the inside in the form of a tent.

The Grecian Saloon, in the pure Grecian style, with Caryatides; the interstices between which are to be considered as open, and represent the Ruins of Athens, with the adjacent country.

The subscribers have the liberty of using these three rooms as they may find occasion, for conferences, meetings of small parties, &c.

Two spacious Dining-Rooms, so constructed, that, if necessary, the whole may be thrown into one. They are decorated with *basso-relievos* in plaster of Paris.

On the third floor are the Saloon of the Muses and the Musi-

cal Saloon. The former is appropriated to the meetings of literary men; and the latter is provided with nautick and musical instruments, which are always kept in the most complete order.

There are various other apartments, which as yet are not destined for any particular purpose.

For the advantage and convenience of this institution, a complete apparatus for expeditious printing has been attached to it. This establishment, as may be supposed can be employed by the subscribers in various ways, and is under the direction of Mr. Conrad Muller, a celebrated printer of this

city. This active citizen will pay particular attention to procure mercantile treatises of every kind, and likewise translations, from whatever language they may be, with all possible dispatch and punctuality.

On the ground-floor of the Exchange-Hall are apartments for taking breakfast, or any other kind of refreshment.

It is scarcely necessary to remark, that the whole is furnished with taste and elegance, and that the superintendance of the establishment is confided to a man every way qualified for the situation.

For the Anthology.

DIDOT'S HORACE.

THE cheapness of the stereotype editions, with the correctness of the text, and the neatness of the execution, will soon make them generally known in our country. Copies of the classicks of antiquity are not often found in the hands of even gentlemen of education and fortune among us, and good editions have always been shamefully scarce. Our young men generally exult in their release from college; and, in order to acquire the air of gentlemen of polished manners, shake off the dust of the closet, which might betray them, and magnanimously resolve to forget, what they never half learned. Since the revolution, owing either to a relaxation of the discipline at our university, or to a general mistake of our countrymen, under pretence of devotion to more useful pursuits, the study of ancient literature is so much slighted, that few can read Latin and fewer write it with ease, ...while

to be versed in Greek is almost as rare, and may soon become as dangerous, as the practice of the black art. The coin, which passes in all other parts of the civilized world, which increases in value, as it increases in age, is neither current by authority of our government, nor stamped with the approbation of our people.

But, in spite of the little encouragement, afforded to literature, it seems within a few years to have become more respected. The high price of books has prevented their general circulation; but we shall in future be without excuse, when we can purchase Sallust for twenty cents, and Horace or Virgil for twenty-five, if the stereotype presses in England and France do not render those writers as common in the United States, as the works of Shakespeare and Pope.

The Parisian stereotype of Virgil seems, as far as I have ex-

amined it, almost a perfect edition; but I cannot say so much in favour of Horace from the press of Didot in 1800. The first thing observable is the liberty assumed of omitting passages in this favourite poet. Had this been done only in a few instances, no friend to decency and good morals could have complained; but even then the title page should inform us what sort of an edition we were to purchase. It ought to have been called *editio expurgata*, or rather *excerpta ex Horatii carminibus*. Nearly seven hundred lines are struck out from the pages of Horace; of seven eighths of which I may confidently say, no parent or instructor can reasonably think them dangerous; of which the indignant author, could he have raised his head in the office of Didot, would have exclaimed

..... Musarum sacerdos,
Virgibus puerisque canto.

Inspired by truth divine,
I, priest of the melodious Nine,
To youths and virgins sing the mystic strain.

Nor could the printer even have appeared him by quoting from his own page,

Non omnis moriar,
Whole Horace shall not die,

while he designed to condemn so many beauties to forgetfulness.

The reason for the exclusion of the two last lines of the fourth Ode in the first book is more apparent, than we can discover for the like treatment to many others, yet I regret the omission. The vices of the heathen can no more be concealed from us, than their unreasonable idolatry; and that among these was the unnatural love, so fully described and so justly stigmatised by St. Paul in Romans I; must be known to every man, conversant with the writings

and manners of antiquity. But I fear no pollution from such a passage. It has been gravely commented on by learned divines and Christian critics, and even Mr. Didot was not terrified from retaining the usual reading in the second Eclogue of Virgil,

Formosum pastor Corydon ardebat
Alexin,
Delicias domini.

The next omission is the whole fifth Ode, an ode, which Scaliger has called pure nectar, which Milton thought worthy of translation by his hallowed pen, and which has been lately versified in the Cambridge Literary Miscellany by a gentleman, whose correct taste is the worthy concomitant of his purity of manners. But I have not patience to inquire into and expose this prudery. That some lines of Horace ought to be omitted, as they are usually passed over in our Colleges and schools, may seem reasonable. Such are usually marked by stars in common Delphin Editions, where a boy moves in leading strings along a footpath of interpretation, and when he meets such obstacles, is compelled to encounter all the dangers of the highway of his author's text.

I shall now mention, for the use of those, who would expect all Horace in this stereotype edition, what parts are omitted, quantum mutatus ab illo! Besides those above mentioned, there are wanting the four last lines in the sixth Ode, the four last in the ninth Ode, the whole thirteenth Ode, the four last lines in the seventeenth Ode, the whole nineteenth, twenty-third and twenty-fifth Odes, the sixteen last lines in the twenty-seventh Ode, the whole thirty-third Ode, and the four last lines of the thirty-sixth Ode, all in the first book. In the second book,

Odes, fourth, fifth, and eighth are omitted, the four last lines in Odes eleventh and twelfth. In Book third, Ode sixth, the lines from 24 to 33 are wanting; Odes seventh, ninth, and tenth; in Ode eleventh the lines from 8 to 13; Odes twelfth and fifteenth; the four last lines of Ode nineteenth; and Ode twentieth. In the fourth book the first Ode is wanting, the last sixteen lines of the eleventh Ode, and from line 4 to 9 in the thirteenth. In the third Epode the four last lines are wanting; Epodes eighth, eleventh, twelfth, fourteenth and fifteenth; and the three last lines in the seventeenth. In Satire 2d, of the first book, lines twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth are omitted, and from the twenty-seventh line to the end. The twenty-seventh line in Satire 4th, and the lines from 81 to 86 in Satire 5 are omitted, as is the fifth in Satire 8th. In the second book and second Satire the thirty-eighth line is omitted, and Bentley thought it spurious, but it is always printed. In Satire 3d, lines 228 and 325 are wanting, as are in Satire 5th from 72 to 84, and in Satire 7th from 45 to 72. In the seventh Epistle line twenty-eighth; in the fourteenth, line thirty-third; in the fifteenth, line twenty-first; and in the eighteenth from 71 to 76 are omitted. Of this long catalogue I forbear to specify those passages, which seemed to me most deserving of this exclusion.

In lib. 1, Ode 1. 29, Didot adheres to the common reading, 'Me doctarum,' &c. though there are many criticks, who, contrary to the suffrages of all the manuscripts, think Horace must have written, 'Te doctarum,' &c. which highly improves the spirit of the composition. The reasons are plainly stated in a note of Dr Francis,

and confirmed by much argument in Wakefield. Conjectural criticism would sometimes add graces, that never entered the mind of the original author, but if Horace did not write, as Wakefield supposes, we may be excused for wishing that he had.

I cannot find that this edition has exclusively followed any former one in its text. It seems rather to have extracted the best readings from all preceding criticks, and sometimes to have ventured on new ones, as in Ode 3d, line 26, of the same book. Most of the editions read, 'Gens humana truit per vetitum nefas;' and Gesner, who professes to give all the various readings, has not recorded any other. But this is a fault of that famous work. The edition of Baskerville, dedicated to the Earl of Bute, reads 'vetitum et nefas,' but Baskerville is more celebrated for the elegance of his works, than their correctness. In this place however he is followed by Francis, who justifies himself by Hamelius and Sanadon, and says that 'vetitum' is a feeble epithet. The new reading of Didot 'per vetitum; nefas!' is plausible and easily formed; but Horace has not often used such exclamations, and to me it seems less proper here, than it would be in the first line of Ode 11, where no critick has yet thought of putting it. Yet if we concede 'vetitum' to be an unmeaning adjunct, it seems most likely, that such was the original. *Aliquando bonus dormitat Homerus, and why not Horace?*

In the 7 Ode, line 6, our critick reads 'Palladis arces' with Bentley, after a manuscript of great authority at Oxford, though there appears little reason for the variation from the common text. But in line 7th of the same Ode he ad-

heres to the old readings, 'decerptam fronti præponere olivam,' probably the true one, authorised by all the manuscripts and all editions before the time of Erasmus, who proposed the feeble line, adopted by the edition in Usum Delphini, which has unhappily been most common in our country: So carelessly has that work of Desprez been reprinted, that its errors have become innumerable, and in the London copy of 1727, in line 31st of this same Ode, the sense and the metre are ruined by the omission of the word 'vino.'

In Ode 9, line 15, 'Camænas' is substituted for 'amores,' without any pretence that it is the true reading. The modesty of the French press shrunk, forsooth! from the original sentiment, and, lest our morals should be corrupted, adopted this new phraseology. What can be more ridiculous, than such delicacy? What, but the omission of the four last lines of this playful poem, the frightful immorality, of which Dr. Francis (a venerable D. D. proh pudor!) has dared closely to translate.

The laugh, that from the corner flies,
The sportive fair one shall betray;
Then boldly snatch the joyful prize;
A ring or bracelet tear away;
While she, not too severely coy,
Struggling shall yield the willing toy.

Again in Ode 17, line 24, the true text is unreasonably altered; but it was rendered necessary, as the four succeeding lines are excluded.

In Ode 28, line 14, Didot has admitted the reading, 'Judice me,' proposed by a single critic in opposition to all others, which greatly diminishes the force of the passage; but in line 18 he follows the better authorities, 'avidum' in opposition to the vulgar 'avidis,' and again in line 31st.

In lib. 2, Ode 10, l. 9, the stereotype has 'sævius' instead of the common reading 'scopius;' and it seems preferable, as Burman and Wakefield think. In line 19 the reading of most of the manuscripts, 'fulgura,' is followed, though many early editions have 'fulmina.'

Of the text in Lib. 3, Ode 8, line 19, I know not what to say. Most of the good editions read, 'Medus infestus sibi luctuosus;' but Didot has obeyed Bentley and Wakefield. The difference is hardly worth a contest. But in Ode 24, line 24, he adopts the readings of the most learned critics, which is more lively at least, than the common one. In Ode 26, line 1, the printer's purity is once more alarmed, and he substitutes 'choræis' for 'puellis.' In Ode 27, line 48, he has the better reading, 'cornua monstri.'

In Lib. 4, Ode 6, line 25, a manuscript, cited by Bentley, is followed, with some reason, against most of the editions. In Ode 13, line 9, having needlessly omitted four lines, the editor is compelled to substitute 'amor' for 'enim.'

In the Carmen Sæculare, line 21, Didot reads 'ut denos decies per annos,' and he has some of the earlier editions to countenance him; yet the great majority of the learned prefer 'undenos decies,' and no critic has, I believe, lately asserted that these secular games were usually celebrated every hundred years, but every hundred and ten years. It seems strange, that a chronological fact, of so great importance during the most enlightened period of the Roman empire, should now be disputable. The authority of two Sybilline verses is brought in by the editor in Usum Delphini, but they are probably spurious. After much search I have obtained no satisfaction upon this question; but I find that the

general suffrage is in favour of the longer term, and two considerations incline me to it. It is less probable the dispute would have occurred, as it certainly did among the Romans themselves, for Suetonius mentions the celebration at a time nothing near the recurrence of the solemn era, if these most solemn ceremonies were to be holden precisely at the end of every hundred years. The Greek verses also, though perhaps never proceeding from the prophetick books, must at least have been forged many hundred years before the invention of printing, and may have been cited at the court of Augustus.

The variations in the Satires and Epistles are less numerous, than the omissions, and are of little consequence. The change in line 107, Sat. 3, of the first book, cannot be objected to.

In the Art of Poetry the lines which are numbered 45 and 46 in the Delphini edition are transposed in this stereotype edition, according to the admirable emendation of Bentley, which has generally been acquiesced in, though it is rejected by the text of Foulis. Didot has also followed the great English critick in line 101, 'Ut ridentibus arident, ita sientibus adfient,' which is approved by most of the English editions, and stoutly opposed by the German Gesner. Though the reading of Bentley in this place seem preferable, too much deference has been sometimes paid to his boldness of substitution, as in line 114, where he is followed by Foulis and Baskerville, while the old reading is maintained by Wakefield, and received by the French editor. I observe the omission of the point at the end of the 153d line, the only defect in the printing of this volume,

which has occurred to me. When shall we become as correct in our country? In line 197 Didot has followed the elegant emendation of Bentley, 'Et regat iratos, et amet pacare tumentes'; which, though opposed by Gesner, is received by the learned; and the reason may be quoted from Francis, "the expression in the common editions would say the same, as 'bonis favent,' as in the former line, and even say it more feebly." In verse 294. he reads 'præsectum' with the best criticks. In line 360, the more expressive reading of Bentley is adopted. The next line is as much improved by a change in punctuation as any passage ever can be, 'Ut pictura, possis; erit quæ,' &c. In verse 443 Didot has adopted 'sumebat' for 'insumebat,' which seems good enough, but it has little support from great names; and none from manuscripts. In lines 460, 461, he follows the best editors, who read 'curet' not 'curret.'

In writing the notes the French editor has not, like most others, intruded a load of mythological, physical, or historical knowledge. He has not quoted parallel passages from Anacreon and Aristophanes; but has only attempted to explain his author without increasing the cost of the volume. Virgil he had published without a single annotation; but Horace requires explanation in many passages. The notes are never longer than three or four lines, and more frequently not more than that number of words. In these notes perhaps even Didot has only elucidated what was clear before, but this must always be expected from note-makers. Omnibus hoc vitium. The notes of Wakefield, tho' I mean not to depreciate his labours, seem written for his par-

ticular edition, and not to explain Horace. The edition of Gesner appears most laudable in this respect. In the Ode to Varus, lib. 1. 18. 'Siccis omnia nam dura Deus proposuit,' hardly meets illustration, though most of the commentators have told us, that 'Siccis' is here metaphorically used for sober. Nor do we learn much from the word 'innocens' in the margin to explain 'integer vitæ;' nor from 'indecorè' to illustrate 'parmulâ non bene relicta.' In Lib. 2, Ode 3, near the end, the punctuation must be wrong, for after 'urna' he uses a semicolon, while his note interprets it, like former critics.

In the explanation of the beginning of the third Ode, Lib. 1, is a phrase that might have confirmed Wakefield in his strange manner of reading. 'Reddere incolumem' means to deliver or land Virgil safe at Athens, not, as Wakefield by altering the punctuation of the passage would make it, to return him safe to Italy. 'Reddo' does not frequently mean to return. We say 'reddere epistolam' to deliver, not to return, a letter. Pliny has 'reddere flores' to blossom, and its use in other parts of Horace will be learned in Lib. 2, Ode 17, line 30, and line 75, Sat. 3, Lib. 1. But in his note Didot uses 'restituas,' which, I believe always means, to return or restore to a former condition. Vide Lib. 3, Ode 7, at the beginning. So that with diffidence I believe both of the learned editors have misunderstood the meaning of that word; Didot, who uses 'restituas,' as tantamount to 'red-das,' while he maintains the common reading; and Wakefield, who totally changes the usual interpretation by only shifting a comma. The self-confident English editor says, "Mirari satis *nequeo*,

neminem editorum, quorum sanè proventum uberrimum sibi nacta est Horatii felicitas, rectam hujusce loci rationem arripuisse. Erat Virgilius scilicet in "fines Atticos" nave deferendus, undè in patriam reditura tutum dilectissimo poetæ precatur Flaccus; cui scriptoris scopo manifestè per *nostram* interpunctionem consultum *ivimus*." "I cannot sufficiently admire, that none of the editors, of whom the happy style of Horace has raised him a plentiful harvest, has rightly apprehended the meaning of this passage. Virgil was about to sail for Athens, whence Horace prays for this beloved poet a safe return to his own country; and to this meaning of the author we have paid attention in our punctuation."

It is strange indeed, that so good a writer, as Wakefield, should thus use the first person of the singular number in one sentence, and of the plural in the next; but it is still more strange, that, in opposition to all preceding editors, he should construe this prayer of Horace to apply to the return of the vessel, and not to her voyage to Athens. It is not very probable, that the same ship, in which Virgil was going to Athens, would wait to bring him back; and from his biographer we learn, that, when he left Rome, he intended to have passed three years in Greece and Asia in retirement, perhaps to have given the last polish to his *Æneid*. But being taken sick at Megara, he hurried back to Italy, and died before reaching home. This supposition affixes a later date to the composition of this famous Ode, than is allowed by Bentley; but I believe with Dacier, that it was composed at the time of the fatal voyage of Virgil. But if the safe return of his friend

be here meant, Horace would not have supplicated the God of the winds to restrain every breeze, except the Western; that, being favourable to carry the ship to Athens, would be directly ahead

on her return. Mr. Wakefield had forgotten the story of the Irishman, who, crossing St. George's channel with a contrary wind, prayed it might change before his return. SCALIGER.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE TO HIS FRIENDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

LETTER SECOND.

Rome, Nov. 16, 1804.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

YOU well know, that I came to Europe with as few prejudices for or against any particular sect of christians as most men, and that I was (and indeed I still am) disposed to believe, that there are honest and virtuous men of all persuasions. It must be admitted, that all such, however opposed in articles of faith or modes of worship, are equally entitled to our charity.

Still this charity does not forbid us to examine and expose the follies or absurdities, which may have crept into their creed or practice. On the contrary our duty, as men and christians, requires, that we should, as far as may be in our power, counteract and oppose with becoming candour those errors and abuses, that impede the reception and usefulness of the religion we profess. Both of us had formed some opinion of the absurdity of Catholic superstition, but I assure you, that I found it a very imperfect one. No writer, however severe, has hitherto, nor, in my estimation, ever can do, any thing like justice to the subject. Dr. Moore and others have exerted all the powers of

wit to render the notions and practices of the Catholicks ridiculous; but one half of the time, spent in simple narration, without the aid of satire, would have produced more effect, and would have saved them the opprobrium of being suspected to be opposers of christianity itself.

To point out the errors, or to ridicule the absurd superstitions, which have debased the worship of the present system of religion, is certainly not only consistent with a thorough belief of that system, but is perhaps a duty, which that belief requires; but one should be extremely careful, lest in the zeal of reformation, a weapon should be afforded to the opponents of religion itself.

To the Catholicks, I think we owe no apology for the exposure of their failings. The bigotted intolerance and persecution, which have marked the footsteps of the followers of papacy, from the burning of John Huss, to the massacre of St. Bartholomew, give them but feeble claims on the liberality of Protestants; and the evident contempt for all other Christians, who are denominated Infidels, which is still to be perceived at Rome, notwithstanding all their humiliations,

give us a fair fight to examine the grounds of their imaginary claim to superiority.

I shall devote the present letter to the narration of such facts as have fallen within *my own observation* only, relative to the superstitious opinions and observances, and pious frauds, existing in Italy at the present moment.

The doctrine of indulgences is familiar to you. The pretended origin is the power given to St. Peter, and which the papists contend has descended like a heirloom, or like the mantle of Elijah upon his regular, anointed successors in the apostolick chair. Where this power resided, when there were two rival popes, anathematizing each other, and waging war with the arm of flesh for the good of the apostolick church, we are not told. I suppose, at such a moment, it must be considered, as the freehold sometimes is in our law in *Abeysance*, ready to grace the temples of the victor.

At Milan, and in all the great cities of Italy, you still find inscriptions in the churches in which the sale of indulgences is publickly advertized. The following I insert as a specimen. It is an exact copy of one of these advertisements in Italian.

Indulgenza plenaria tutti i giorni
della settimana.

And for the benefit of the more learned it is usually also translated into Latin.

Indulgentiæ plenariæ et aliæ non plenariæ quotidiane.

As I understand it in plain English, they daily grant permissions, either general or more limited, to commit offences.

There are other churches, which have the *exclusive right* of praying souls out of purgatory. They also

advertize this privilege, one of which I also transmit to you.

D. O. M.
Defunctorum animæ
in novem dies
in requiem æternam
deprecantur.

“The souls of the dead during nine days are prayed into eternal rest.”

This privilege however is very rare, and is confined only to such churches as are pre-eminently blessed by possessing some relick, or by having been founded by some distinguished saint. In such cases you always find a bull of the pope sculptured on marble, granting this favour by virtue of his apostolick authority.

I forget, whether I mentioned to you the church of St. Suaire, at the church of the holy handkerchief at Turin. This building is one of the most magnificent in Italy. It is wholly lined with polished *black* marble, which, combined with the artificial darkness, which it is contrived to produce, impresses the firmest minds with awe, and disposes the lightest to devotion. This edifice was erected to inclose the holy handkerchief, with which our Saviour is fabled to have wiped his face, as he was bearing the cross to the place of execution. A writer upon this subject remarks, that he has found *seven* different churches, all of which claim the honour of possessing this valuable relick; but he gives the preference to the claims of the church at Turin, because it has *fourteen* bulls in its favour. The veneration, in which this relick is held is astonishing. A citizen of Turin thinks it one of the most solid foundations of its superiority over its sister cities, and the sovereigns of Sardinia and Piedmont annually assisted at the

ceremony of exhibiting this wonderful handkerchief to the people.

The cathedral at Milan, whose noble architecture really merits the admiration of the world, also shuts up one of these precious deposits, a *real* nail of the cross. It is enclosed with vast splendour in a vase in this church, and they make an annual procession, at which it is exhibited to the people, and upon which occasion the archbishop and clergy attend, and high mass is performed. St. Charles Borromeo, a distinguished saint, who deposited this *sacred* nail, and who instituted this solemn festival and procession, has contrived to multiply this relic by numerous copies in wood, and painting, and the devout Catholics bring their chaplets and other sacred things, that they may acquire a new value by being shaken in the same box with the holy nail.

Our Lady of Loretto, and the Casa Santa, are not wholly unknown to you. These sacred relics and the church which enclosed them, once the objects of the devotion of princes, and to which they frequently made pilgrimages, were endowed with a magnificence worthy of these wealthy bigots. They were plundered by the French during the revolution, but Bonaparte, since his conversion from Mahometanism to Catholicism, having restored the image of the Virgin, these relics are again the objects of superstitious veneration. The history of this Casa Santa, as related by these credulous votaries, is indeed ridiculous, and if I had not been an eye-witness of the splendour with which it is surrounded, and of the awe and holy veneration in which it is still held, I should have withheld my belief of the existence of such blind credulity. The Casa

Santa, or holy house, is the building in which it is pretended, that the Virgin Mary was born, and in which she received the Annunciation. After the death of our Saviour and of the Virgin, it was taken up by angels, and transported to Dalmatia, but not satisfied with the reception they met with there, they removed it to Italy, where after two or three other changes of situation, it was finally fixed on the top of a hill almost inaccessible, in the village of Loretto. When or at what period of the Christian era, it first became the object of religious respect, seems to be unsettled, but it is certain that in process of time, popes and literary men all affected to credit the legend, and vast sums have accordingly been expended by the holy see in rendering Loretto a superb place, calculated to excite the awe of the superstitious vulgar.

The holy house has been surrounded modernly by a rich case, or coat of the marble of Carrara, the finest in Italy. The style of architecture of this case is Corinthian, and of course elegant; the statues and bas reliefs which surround it are superb. The monks who shew it to you pretend, that originally the marble case was built close to the sacred house, but that, as if conscious of its own baseness, it has started off, and it certainly stands now at a very respectful distance.

The house itself is not more than 30 feet long, 20 feet wide, and as many in height; the whole is placed in a most magnificent church, in which all the pomp of papacy has been displayed. The inside of the holy house is perfectly naked and exposed to the eye, so that you can discover its original construction; it is built of

small stones laid in the form, and about the size of large bricks. My guide gravely assured me, that the building had no foundation, and to convince me of it, he took out of the wall one of the loose stones, which proved, as he thought, that the edifice was supported wholly by supernatural power. The image of the Virgin, which the French have lately restored, without the treasure which was plundered with it, is said to have been the workmanship of St. Luke, whom these honest zealots declare was both a painter and sculptor. I confess I do not think this statue any proof of his high attainments in sculpture. It is made, they tell you, of the cedar of Lebanon; but whether from its extreme age, or from the natural colour of the wood, I cannot say, but it has now acquired the hue of ebony. We were carried into the Sancta Sanctorum of this building, and were shewn the *very fire-place* at which the virgins used to sit. I assure you, these things are told with a zeal and unaffected simplicity which leave no doubts of the sincerity of the relators. It was with difficulty we could pass along the streets of Loretto, so teased and interrupted were we by the sellers of chaplets and rosaries, which, having been carried into the holy house are thought to have acquired peculiar value. In Loretto, as in all the zealous Roman catholic towns, you are waylaid by hosts of beggars, who subsist wholly by mendicity; and I have uniformly remarked, that superstition and misery are twin-sisters who are never separated.

I had a very good opportunity in this place to prove, what I had always before suspected, the propensity of Dr. Moore to sacrifice truth to a good saying or a witty

thought; and you may rely upon it, that his travels, though extremely witty and entertaining, are little better than a pleasant romance. I would not be thought to undervalue the merit of this excellent work, which will always be admired, and ought to be considered as a model of fine epistolary writing, but its excellence does not consist in the truth of its narration, nor in the correctness of its descriptions. Dr. Moore, upon observing in the church which encloses the Casa Santa, a beautiful bas relief of the *Death of Abel*, remarks, that, "Poor Abel has been always unfortunate—had he been placed by the artist a foot higher or lower, he would have been safe, but coming opposite to the mouths of the Pilgrims while kneeling, the poor fellow has been *kissed almost out of existence*, while Cain stands frowning and fierce as ever." If this was intended as a mere sally of the imagination, I confess I cannot see much wit in it; but if it was designed to convey to the mind of the reader the impression of a fact, I must say that it is wholly without foundation. I viewed this bas relief, in all its beauty, thirty years after Dr. Moore made the remark, and there was no apparent difference in the two brothers—Abel was full as perfect as Cain, and they were both wholly unimpaired. You know enough of bronze's reliefs, to be convinced, that this could not have been repaired, and of course you will join me in the opinion, that, in this instance, *at least*, Moore preferred a reputation for wit, to one for veracity.

Since our arrival at Rome, we have made the tour of the city, and have visited several of the modern churches; and we will, if you please, pursue the history of cre-

quity at this time, that we may not be obliged to debase our future and more noble pursuits, by blending with them these pictures of human weakness.

At Santa Maria Maggiore, one of the most magnificent churches in Rome, they shew you a chapel under ground, over the entrance to which a lamp is perpetually burning, and in which they preserve what they affirm is the *real cradle* in which our Saviour was laid while an infant; and in the same church are preserved likewise some of the *hay* upon which he was first placed, and the *swaddling clothes* with which he was wrapped at his birth. When we recollect the persecution and poverty of Joseph and Mary, their flight into Egypt, to avoid the vengeance of Herod, and the itinerant life which our Saviour was obliged to lead, the improbability of their being able to preserve these relics, even during his life, and the total unimportance of them if preserved, one would suppose, would be sufficient to convince even the most ignorant and illiterate of the absurdity of such tales; but when we add further, the state of the early church, fugitive and persecuted, free from every sort of superstition, and that it is not pretended that these relics were procured till after the capture of Jerusalem by the christians, it is almost impossible to believe even the evidence of one's senses, that a church, administered by enlightened men, professing the most undissembled piety, could, in an age like the present, continue to countenance, and even encourage, such opinions.

At the church of Santa Croce di Gerusalemme, or the Holy Cross of Jerusalem, they exhibit a piece of the real cross of our Saviour,

which is shewn with great pomp to the mob, in an annual procession, at which all the dignitaries of the church assist. At the entrance of the church of the Scala Santa, or Holy Stair-Case, they have erected a magnificent flight of marble steps, which they pretend were taken from the house of Pontius Pilate, and were the same which our Saviour ascended when he went to have his hearing before that officer. They allege, that he fell three times in ascending these steps, and the spots where he faltered are marked with brass nails.

These steps, about twenty in number, the devotees are obliged to ascend on their knees; and so great has been the concourse of the faithful, that they had seriously impaired the marble, and indeed threatened the destruction of this precious remnant, if the Popes had not prudently ordered them to be covered with oak planks, which, in their turn, are nearly demolished by this holy fervour. We saw two of these devout believers ascending *Pilate's Stair-Case* in this painful, but no doubt from the good effects they expected to derive from it, to them pleasurable way.

I cannot say, that white marble is not as plenty in Palestine as in Italy, but if not, it must have been a very expensive article to Pilate, for these steps were fifteen feet long, of a single block, and the transportation must therefore have been very troublesome. I could not help remarking, that *this* marble very much resembled that of Italy, and I believe is peculiar to that country. You are shewn also in this church a picture of our Saviour by St. Luke, which I think must be the oldest in christendom; and a bronze door, which was taken down from the palace of Pon-

thas Pilate in Jerusalem. By the way, can you inform me, what were the particular merits of Pilate, which should render even the threshold of his door the object of religious veneration?

At St. John in the Lateran, which, an inscription informs you, is the oldest church in Christendom, having been built by Constantine, the first Christian emperor, you will expect to find an extraordinary collection of sacred things, and your expectations will not be disappointed. It has the honour to possess the real head of St. Peter. It boasts of having the pillars of the portico of the palace of Pilate. It undoubtedly has the happiness to inclose within its walls the real *Samaritan* well, mentioned in John iv. 6, 7, or rather the *curb* of that well, as they could not very conveniently transport the well itself; but in order to preserve the resemblance, they have dug a well in the church yard, and placed the curb over it, and they now oblige you to remark the channel worn by the rope when employed in raising the water in Samaria. This curb is also of beautiful white marble, and is covered with elegant bas reliefs. I say nothing of the probability of their having so expensive an ornament to a well in a village in Samaria, but I must remark, that marble must have been very abundant in Palestine; and that the popes have been singularly *fortunate*, as well as industrious, in finding all these relics five hundred years after the period of the events which had rendered them interesting.

They have also in this church a little monument consisting of a flat stone on the ground, upon which four pillars are placed, which support another stone at the height of about six feet, and which you

are gravely told represents the exact height of our Saviour. How this was ascertained, they do not inform you, but one marvellous circumstance they never forget, which is, that no person has yet been found, whose size corresponded exactly with this measurement of our Saviour. This tale is always accompanied with a look of uncommon awe, and an astonished countenance. In this church there is also an altar, the history of which is equally surprising, and will go far to make you credit the doctrine of the *real presence* in the elements. This altar has a large hole through it, the cause of which is affirmed to be, that a priest was administering the sacrament over this altar, and held in his hand the consecrated bread, but, not believing that it was the *real body* of our Lord, he attempted to cut it, and the blood immediately followed from the wound. The piece of bread fell from his hand, and instantly made its way through the marble altar, which is preserved in perpetual remembrance of the miracle. The astonished priest, no doubt, was converted at this unquestionable proof of the truth of the Catholic doctrine, and you must be hardened indeed, if you still refuse your assent to an opinion so miraculously supported.

I could go on, and tell you, that I have seen the original oaken table, at which our Saviour and his disciples partook of the last supper—and the actual print of our Saviour's foot, made upon a piece of marble, when the devil carried him into the mountain to tempt him—and a thousand other *equally important* relics; but I think, that enough has been already stated to shew, that revolutions have not effaced the impressions of bigotry, nor annihilated the reign of credulity in this celebrated country.

It is indeed to be regretted, that the pure and simple religion of christianity should be thus debased in its practice by the grossest idolatry, for it deserves no other name :—and it is still more to be lamented, that we can scarcely hope for a change, beneficial to religion, in this country ; for ex-

perience teaches us, that men usually go from one extreme to the other, and it is therefore to be feared, that these unfortunate people, would proceed, like the French, from blind credulity to open infidelity and atheism.

Yours, &c.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 18.

‘The best society and conversation is that, in which the heart has a greater share than the head.’—BRUYERE.

AS most ages have received some appellation descriptive of their character (for instance the Silver, the Golden, and the Iron,) and the one which we adorn has never been named, I have thought in my wisdom of calling it the *Calculating*. Why I consider such an epithet appropriate is, that I have noticed a disposition in society to confer invariably with the head, without consulting the heart ; to derive every thing, as it were from the *cell*, and to take nothing from the *fibre*. Of late, no sentiment is adopted, no impression acknowledged, without separately advising with this wise piece of workmanship ; and to pretend to be delighted or disgusted at aught without assigning its wherefores, is like settling a law point without justice or authority. Were this propensity confined to grave studies in science or art, it would be an affront to Wisdom for any to murmur ; but when subjects of taste, polite literature, and affairs of the heart are coldly submitted to the tests of the brain, one may lose his good nature without offending that Goddess. It is not my inten-

tion to disparage the judicial department of our system, but to preserve that equipoise between its parts, essential to harmony. If the head is invited to judge, let the heart, too, be permitted to feel.—The pulse often throbs with intelligence, and truth may be bewildered in the intricacies of argument. I am perfectly sensible that I may be considered by some as deficient in what I am aiming to rectify ; but, though I wish with my neighbours to stand well with the world, I shall deliver my mind at the risk of reputation. The fraternity of Longheads may suppose if they please, that my wits are disordered by the full of the moon, but, be those as they may, I will defend to the utmost the cause of the heart, and never advance the cold dictates of reason on the warm ruins of good feeling and dignified passion. There is somewhat so cold about the philosophy of the head, that it should be laid to warm in the bosom, to be made pleasant for use.

I mean not, however, to encourage a partiality for the heart, which some susceptible spirits are known to entertain ; who consider the feelings of the moment

as a sufficient authority for the conduct of their lives, and depend alone for advice on the caprice of their blood. I am fully convinced of the infirmity of our nature, and have not to learn, that to consult apart with its humours, is to take the enemy to council before we are aware. It is true we are told in the tales of romance of the disinterested disposition of ladies and cavaliers, of the magnanimity of Bradamant and the generosity of Roland. But the period of chivalry has long since elapsed, and we must now despair of perfection in these days of degeneracy.

I have thought fit in the outset to be thus explicit, lest some of my readers should misconstrue my meaning, and pronounce me a disciple of that school of enthusiasts, who are overflowing with sentiment, but at low mark in principle. For they, too, expatiate upon the sublimity of their feelings, and affect to indulge them for the promotion of virtue. But with them and their refinements I have nothing to do; for I wish not by favouring the heart to enfeeble the morals. That effeminacy of mind, which disqualifies one for engaging in the business of life, but which is dignified by the idle with the name of sensibility, I am equally unwilling, also, to countenance or excuse. For it is ungenerous, under the pretence of being nicer than others, to refuse to divide those exertions, the advantages of which we participate in common. But more particularly, I would be understood in defending the heart, not to apologize for its irregularities in love. There are a few of my friends who esteem this organ as exclusively the property of Cupid, and his right to direct it indisputable and supreme. Now, though I regard his little Godship

full favourably enough, I am decidedly of opinion that he ought, as well as some other dictators, to be carefully watched in the administration of his office; for most youths, from the sprightliness of their temperament, are naturally disposed for the commission of mischief; and, if chronicles are to be credited, the Divinity in question is as thorough a *Pickle* as any youngster of his standing. That he is not belyed there is little difficulty in believing, because his education has rested entirely with his mother, who, on account of the looseness of her character, to say nothing of her sex (no offence to the fair) is an improper preceptress for any lad in the world, and enough to contaminate half the minors in christendom. Far from recommending an unlimited obedience to this little Potentate of hearts, or a decided reliance on the advice of his mamma, I would counsel my readers to keep a rod in the corner for the correcting of both. It may appear, perhaps, indecorous in the Remarker to prescribe birch for the females, but, from some curious anecdotes which have lately transpired, he is disposed to pronounce it a general specifick. In this instance at least, there can be no violent impropriety in recommending its application; for it is particularly fitting that parents should share in the mortifications which their misconduct had caused to be inflicted on their children. Yes, my readers may rest satisfied, that the defence of licentiousness in love makes no part of my plan. The torch of the young incendiary must be brought to the foot of the altar, and his flame be intertwined with the steadier taper of Hymen, and, thus united, be as religiously kept as the fires that are yet burning in

the shrines of eastern superstition.

There are many false lights in this world which we inhabit besides Jack-with-a-lantern or Will-with-a-wisp; but in the whole circle of *ignis fatuusæ* there is none more mischievous than the little linkboy we speak of. Not contented like his brethren with misleading the unwary in the dark, he has set nations together by the ears, fired cities and navies, and occasioned more disturbance in his day and generation than all the Gods of the Greeks.

•Twas he that brought upon his knees
The hec'tring, kill-cow Hercules;
Transform'd his leager-lion's skin
To a petticoat, and made him spin;
Seiz'd on his club, and made it dwindle
To a feeble distaff, and a spindle.

BUTLER.

Having thus far endeavoured by a careful explanation to establish an understanding between his friends and himself, the Remarker proceeds in his calling to describe the disadvantages that arise from this servility to the *capital*. To prove that he entertains no prejudice against this department of our microcosm, he has exclusively followed his judgment in being thus fully explanatory at the commencement of his subject. In asserting the claims of a favourite it is difficult to allow the pretensions of his opponent, to extend the province of the one without infringing the possessions of the other; to exhibit the excellences of each, and acknowledge the deficiencies of both. Keeping this in remembrance, the counsel for the heart, contrary to the practice of advocates in general, will endeavour to distribute justice to either party alike. But if he fail in the attempt, it must be attributed to the inability of his

judgment, not the incorrectness of his feelings.

In enumerating the evils, arising from this attachment to the head, it is natural for a writer to begin with the Hypercriticks; not as being, precisely, the most calamitous and striking, but because we are disposed to give precedence to whatever relates to ourselves, and to speak first of the difficulties, which lie next to our doors. That these phlegmatick animals have acquired their disposition, by continually puzzling their brains, and never consulting their bosoms, is sufficiently evident from this circumstance alone. It is well understood among anatomists, and I presume my readers are not to be instructed in the fact, that by incessantly tasking the understanding, the blood of our system is inordinately attracted towards the regions of the head, and that what was intended to communicate, by equal diffusion, healthfulness and warmth, is unnaturally consumed in a particular department. By these means it happens, that the finer mechanism of the brain is exposed to separation and decay, in a feverish fluid, in which it is immersed. Hence proceeds that insensibility so common in many scholars to the elegances and niceties in nature and art; to all that is picturesque and original, impassioned and pathetick. Those delicate implements, which are put in operation for the perception of sentiment and taste, are discomposed and disordered in their noddles, like the contents of an egg in the state of an addle. Hence, too, from this heated repletion of the intellectual organs by study, arise those dull exhalations which incumber the foreheads of so many over-fed bookworms; who pore

and doze, and doze and pore, till their temples throb with application, and their senses like the Pythia's disappear in a smother; though without enlightening the world by the delivery of an oracle, and without the intervention of inspiration or prophesy. Lastly, in this way we may account for the existence of the Hypercriticks; their brains have become addled by perpetually jading them in the pursuit of imperfections, and never suffering a genial effusion to enliven their lucubrations. With empty hearts, and overcharged heads, they set about scrutinizing an author whom they want sentiment to relish, and measure his contents by the dogmas of the schools, with the same degree of deliberateness with which a mechanick employs his mensuration upon the dimensions of timber. They are ever seen sitting absorbed in the contemplation of some mighty nothing, like an assiduous old tabby at the entrance of a mouse-hole, though their joy is in no shape declared, or their sessions interrupted by the *furr* of applause. All without them is disconsolate as a December's afternoon, and all within them equally barren and bleak. The small portion of wisdom which falls to their share, is continually beating about its tenement for a perch, or fastening on some little irregularity to mope and to hoot. Though Milton flash on them in all the glories of verse, they pause with your Bentleys to pick a flaw in his grammar. Like the critical cobbler, they would inadvertently pass over the exquisite proportions of the statuary, to detect the omission of a stitch in the seam of his shoe. Incapable of taking in the magnificent, they stoop by the seaside, with old Ocean at his highest, to trace the veins of a pebble-stone,

or decypher the amours of a muscle. They follow Art with the servility of lacqueys, and instead of making use of her only to become acquainted with Nature, forget the nautical oath, and take up with the handmaid, when they should carry the mistress. If you tell them of the natural sublimity, and vigorous simplicity of Shakespeare, they drop an icicle in your bosom, as it were, by some frigid remark, that the excellences of your favourite are counterbalanced by his faults, and that though his departure from the schools in many particulars may have brought him much nearer to truth, yet wherever he is unclassick according to them, he is of course an offender, and must suffer by the statute. Nothing will please them, nothing will do, but what bears to be tested by the level and rule; and a writer must be as prim and precise in his manner, as a young master in his maiden essay, or an attorney in his draught of a special plea. Obedience to the canons, obedience to the canons, is the thing, though the critical code is as unnecessary to true genius, perhaps, as the criminal is acknowledged to be to the exemplary and ingenious.

Of all vain fools with coxcomb talents
curst,
 Bad writers and bad critics are the
worst. MASON.

Now it is evident I conceive, that these grievances originate in the way just described—by overtasking the judgment and neglecting the affections. But lest some should be disposed to discredit the correctness of my opinion, I will relate a matter of fact, which I chanced on in reading. It is recorded in the annals of the College of Physicians (the volume and chapter are not now remembered) that a disciple of the fraternity,

about which we are treating, was once dissected in the course of anatomy by the fellows of the institution; in whom the appearances were so different from those of subjects in general, that it was resolved in full meeting to make report of the same, to be registered as monstrous in the history of dissection. By this account it appears, that upon opening the body the *pericardium*, or purse in which the heart is contained, it was found so contracted and shrivelled, that some doubts were entertained as to the identity of the part. Numbers were of opinion, that they had mistaken the situation of the fountain of life, and were inclined to believe with the *Mock Doctor*, that it quartered its streams in the right cavity of the chest. How long this persuasion suspended the lecture, or what learning was discovered in support of the same, unfortunately for the world, we are left to conjecture. All that the statement gives us to know respecting the operators is, that after removing the *pericardium*, with the doubts it occasioned, they expressed as much surprise at its contents, as had been shown for the membrane, in which they were contained. That interesting muscle, the heart, it seems, was so contracted and indurated, as to make it next to impossible to perforate it with the instruments for the occasion; and several went far enough to affirm, that during the dissection they conceived that it rattled. Whether this was the case, they were not assured, though, from the nature of the substance, they conceive it presumable. But what may better be depended on is, both the ventricles of this organ were so exceedingly small, it appeared a mystery with the faculty how the subject had existed. It is affirmed, incredible as it may seem, that

they resisted the insertion of the most delicate probes, and looked hardly large enough to sustain the vital functions of a sparrow. In raising the heart between the fingers, it was found to be heavier than any solid of its size, and to possess such a benumbing property, as to communicate a torpor to the person that touched it. The *pillars*, *walls*, and in fact all the parts of this organ were petrified and colourless, and when held up in sections for examination, reminded the spectators of some specimens of marble. But, as the whole account of this muscle might weary our readers, and enough, perhaps, has been brought to support our position, we will just take a peep into the head, and then conclude with the college.

The state of this department was precisely the reverse of that of the heart. The vessels appeared here to be crowded with extravasated fluid, and the brain, instead of being either contracted or hard, seemed extremely distended and soft. The *pineal* gland, which is considered by *Des Cartes* as the seat of the soul (though we are of opinion with the ancients, that it resides in the *diaphragm*) was so astonishingly enlarged beyond its natural dimensions, that, had the wits of the man gone along with its growth, he might have been said to have sprung from the temples of Jupiter himself. In addition to these peculiarities, owing no doubt to the enlargements we speak of, the *sutures* of the *cranium* were found evidently divided, and there appeared no question in the minds of the physicians, but that the gentleman had been removed by a fit of the apoplexy. So interesting altogether were the appearances of the subject, that a committee was deputed to investi-

gate his history, and report a summary of the same for the edification of the collegiates. From this epitome, which immediately follows the statement here given, we gather, how, several days antecedent to the one of his death, the deceased had been so immersed in the depths of meditation, as not only to neglect the calls of his friends, but to be unable to take either sustenance or sleep. The subject which interested his attention thus forcibly during this period, appears to have been, A Dissertation on the Elements of our Tongue ; in which it is ingeniously insisted, that the Alphabet has been reversed, in the order it now stands, and ought for the honour of *letters* to be restored to its native position ; that *A* unquestionably was situated, originally, on its head, not on its legs, and that the deformity of *Z* proceeded from a hurt which it received at the time of the topsy-turvy, having fallen through a greater arch, than any one of the characters, with the single exception of its friend at the antipodes. For what term this captivating treatise might have occupied our student, or the glosses, additions, and amendments it would have received, unhappily for science, can now never be known ; for on the morning following the final day of his incomplete labours, he was found stiff, by his attendant, in an old-fashioned arm-chair, the dormitory of his family time out of mind. Such, alas, is the effect of inordinate application, and the consequence of wishing to be wise at the expense of the heart !

But there is another and a more serious mischief attending this neglect of the heart, which induces me to alter my tone, and to deliver myself after a less trivial and fanciful strain. I allude to the grow-

ing want of refinement in society with regard to the subject of marriage, or the fashion of suffering interest to determine the propriety of a connexion, which nature intended should be left to the affection. We are informed this covenant of old was regarded as holy, and that the heart was conceived to be conferred with the hand. But the ceremony now-a-days of *tying the knot* is considered by some parties as nothing more than affixing their seals to the articles of settlement. It is sufficiently mortifying to observe the influence of this spirit of speculation (if spirit it may be called) upon the operations of taste ; but it is a more sorry sight to perceive it in prospect gradually chilling the source of domestick confidence and love, and checking in its spread the better feelings of the age.

Perhaps it may be thought by some that the Remarker is ascribing a disposition to the times, which has no existence but in his own ugly imagination, with a view of showing his readers with what dexterity he can quarrel with shadows. But the evil in question, though limited at present, is too evident, he fears, to pass among the imaginaries. Others, who have more philosophy than feeling, may charge him with affecting to be violently sentimental, and place him in the division of high-flying novelists : and, perhaps, with some shew of justice ; for he is so tired of much of the common-place of life, that he has thought seriously of stepping forth in support of romance. Indeed, it has been laughed at long enough, and it is now time, he suspects, to be amused at the expense of its opposite. A little care must be used in exposing a foible, lest another of contrary cast take occasion to triumph.

Our propensities must be governed, like princes, by a balance, or common sense will be continually in danger from some aspiring folly. However, as we are not like to be overpowered with sentiment at present, it may be as well for us to retain what we have, for the sake of good fellowship. Some tempers of mind are more easily got rid of than resumed, and the time probably may arrive, when, disheartened by the coldness of the world, we shall sigh for those emotions, which we assisted to suppress. Among the vexations which I pray to be delivered from, is the vexation of indifference; for next to a bad character, in my estimation, is no character at all.

By thus consulting our interest before our affections, and sacrificing to lucre in preference to love, we are unwisely neglecting that which makes poverty rich, and without which riches, at best, may be regarded as poor. Like Midas, whose touch it is fabled afforded nothing but gold, we are exposing ourselves to repine in the midst of unprofitable plenty. Were the punishments, attending this mercenary spirit, only felt by the sordid, one might sit down contented and see them inflicted. But, in forming the connexion which we are considering, there are many who are guided by motives of affection, and it frequently happens, that such fall a sacrifice to the insensible and mercenary. And when this is the case, it is but natural in us to feel both resentment and pity; resentment for the counterfeit, who assumes the appearance of love to conceal the intent of a traitor, and pity for the unfortunate, who, deceived by professions of tenderness, submits her fortune and destiny to the control of a niggard. A crime com-

mitted in the moment of passion may sometimes be palliated. And the libertine, though unpardonable, may plead the warmth of his feelings to extenuate his excesses; but to what sophistry, even, can they resort to soften their conduct, who, with their spirits collected, profane the ordinance of marriage by hollow promises, and forfeit their integrity to serve their convenience. Hence originate half the calamities in society: hence cold-heartedness, inconstancy, and lying servility. Hence the domestic fire-side becomes the insipid region of infectious yawnings and mutual oxcitancy. Hence entertainment, excluded from her native residence, and pursued through the crowded circles of fashion and folly, is seldom perceived returning, excepting on the giddy wheels of visitation, or in the discordant summons of the knocker. Hence—but *something too much of this, Horatio.*

In attributing the evils which I have mentioned to our neglect of the heart, I expect to be thought more fanciful than wise: but, let my readers regard me in what light they choose, I am convinced that my hypothesis is correct in the main. I am not prepared to think contemptibly of the head, or to disturb its speculations when rightly indulged, though I will not consent, that Sir Gravity shall preside as chief arbiter alone. I would, were it admissible, correct the head by the heart, the heart by the head, so that one should be held in check by the other, and both be improved by a mutual dependence. In this way, each organ would answer the design of its formation, and produce that healthfulness of mind, which gives nobility to the individual and sentiment to society.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 24.

..... nec erubuit sylvas habitare Thalia.

SOME of our readers have inquired, what is the definite meaning and object of this department of our Journal? We reply, that "Silva" literally means a *Wood*, and our effort and ambition is, that it should be a wilderness of sweets, and a repository for curious remarks on men and manners, and literary fragments and novelties. The origin and design of literary *Mélanges* is fully explained in the *Evening Lucubrations of Knox*, a liberal and learned scholar, and an orthodox divine, who disdained to make merchandize of divinity, to turn a sacred profession into a mercenary craft, to pander for the devil, and seduce souls to Satan.

"*Sylvæ* is one of the most elegant, as well as commonest titles to the miscellanies of the ancients. The origin of it is the Greek, *Hyle*; and the authors, who first assumed it, modestly intimated by it, that they had collected a store of *timber*, which themselves, or others, might hereafter use in erecting a regular structure. The *Sylvæ* of Statius are supposed to be more valuable than his finished compositions. In imitation of him, many modern writers of Latin poetry have entitled the miscellaneous parts of their books; and our own Ben Jonson, alluding to the ancient title of *Sylvæ*, denominates some of his smaller works *Underwoods*." "Quintilian describes the works distinguished by the name of *Sylvæ*, as struck out with the impulse of a sudden calenture, *subito excussa calore*, and assigns causes for the appellation, similar

to those which have been already mentioned."

Knox thus correctly estimates the utility of these miscellanies for filling the interstices and intervals of time, which happen in the lives of those most active and busy:—

"There are fragments of time in the life of every man, in which, from inconvenience of circumstances, he is unable either to read with continued attention, or to enjoy the advantages of select company. In those intervals, such books are pleasant, as amuse and inform in very short sections or chapters, in an easy and perspicuous style, resembling, as much as possible, the variety and familiarity of conversation.

"Many of the French books, under the title of *Ana*, are, I think, particularly useful for the purpose of filling up a vacant interval. They are lively and various. They treat of history, literature, and arts, and subjects which amuse, without in such a degree as to fatigue or excite the mind beyond the pitch of a pleasant tranquillity."

—
REVIEWERS.

THE numerous revolutions and extensive improvements in the various sciences, the facility of multiplying copies of books by the art of printing, the brevity of life, and its necessary duties and avocations, preclude even the most diligent and laborious student from the perusal but of a small portion of the innumerable books, daily issuing from the press. Knox observes, "There were probably as many books, and perhaps as many bad

books, written by the ancients, as the moderns ; but the art of printing being unknown, and consequently the multiplication and preservation of books being attended with great trouble and expense, such as were of little intrinsic value, were not transcribed, copies of them were not increased, and they consequently soon perished by the depredations of time."

Since books are so excessively multiplied, it is our duty to destroy useless, unnecessary, and pernicious productions, as the ancient Grecians exposed their most puny and imbecile offspring to perish. Therefore the office of a reviewer is, in the republick of letters, as beneficial and necessary, though as odious and unpleasant, as that of an executioner in the civil state. They are the porters at the gates of the temple of Fame, and should be as blind and inexorable as Justice, which, "in its punishments, rather seems to submit to a necessity, than to make a choice."

Authors who, by plausible professions and false pretensions, defraud the publick of money, dissipate valuable time, and insidiously rifle them of their good principles, are enemies of their kind, and merit the thong of chastisement and the knout of criticism ; and he that undertakes the task of analyzing their works, displaying their beauties, and exposing their wicked arts, confers a favour on the publick. Harmless and obscure writers, in their prefaces frequently supplicate the candour of readers, by observing that their hasty productions will not injure, if they do not benefit mankind. But voluntary trifling with the publick is criminal ; and lenity to the former is cruelty to the latter. In estimating the merit or demerit of literary productions, the motives and circumstances of the author con-

stitute no justification ; they must be considered abstractedly, for the republick of letters is not a state of moral probation. Bloomfield, Phillis Wheatly, and many others in humble life, have attracted some attention by their writings, not because they are excellent, but because they are extraordinary ; as Dr. Johnson observed that dogs, by art and labour taught to dance, are noticed, not because they dance with ease and grace, but because they *dance at all*. Sound intellect and real erudition ought to exempt from the lash of severe criticism those who intrude their works on the publick ; for in the literary commonwealth there is no hospital for the reception of mendicant vagabonds, no Bedlam for insanity and frenzy, no Magdalen for impunity and defilement, and no Lazaretto for lame and hobbling authors. Therefore a large portion of the multitude of publications are at their birth ripe for extinction ; and may be sentenced, as Clarence in his troubled dream fancied he was addressed by an angry spirit, "*Seize him, Furies, take him to your torments.*"

CELIBACY.

MATRIMONY is rarely contracted but by chance. Hence partners, widely differing in qualities of mind, fortune, and situation in life, frequently form a jarring and discordant union. Many who attempt to obey the precept "*almis adjungere vites,*" at length discover that it is not the *vine* which they have wedded to the elm, but the deadly *ivy*, which destroys whatever it embraces. "*Ut hedera serpens vires arboreas necat.*"

Some Benedicks, who by chance have crept along to thirty without forming a domestick alliance, determine to take vengeance on tardy Fortune, and bravely forswear

all thoughts of matrimony. But nature will recur; and bright eyes and alluring smiles will operate on them, as the genial rays of the rising sun on the cold and marble statue of Memnon, causing it to send forth sounds of sweet music.* We need not despair of a man as an unchangeable bachelor, till we observe him in his solitary rambles muttering and talking to himself; then he manifests a troubled mind and disordered fancy, like the maniac hermit,

At times, alas ! not in his perfect mind !
Holds dialogues with his lov'd brother's
ghost.

It is a remarkable fact, that many of the brightest luminaries of literature have spent their lives in cold and cheerless celibacy. Pope, Goldsmith, Locke, Pitt, Voltaire, Erasmus, and many others, were bachelors. Swift was merely a Platonist in love. Dr. Johnson was indeed married; but during the life of his "dear Tetty" he seems not to have been very warmly attached to her; his affection was rather posthumous. The most exquisite literary productions have been the effects of exertions to relieve their authors from distressing poverty, want, and necessity. The mind rarely makes great efforts, but to satisfy the cravings of the body. Wives are not among the necessaries of life; therefore they chose not to become bound to encounter the cares of the domestick state, and to exchange the tranquillity of midnight meditation for the bitterness of curtain lectures. They esteemed it less expensive and more delightful, to be wedded to the nine Muses, than to one mortal wife of flesh and blood. For, if they could write verses with the

facility of Horace's poetaster, and receive as many sesterces for each verse, as Virgil's patron presented him, still a worldly wife would soon dissipate their wealth in the circles of gaiety and fashion.

ALLITERATION.

Those who are fond of "apt alliteration's artful aid," may be amused by the following lines on Cardinal Wolsey.

Begot by butchers, but by bishops bred,
How high his honour holds his haughty
head.

Ancient authors frequently use several successive words, commencing with the same letter; whether by chance or design is uncertain. They never manifest such an affectation and ambition for alliteration as many of the moderns have displayed. Tacitus, in describing the manners of the German women, observes, "*Prima pars pectoris statet.*"

MOTHERS.

THE education and discipline of the minds of children are more in the power of the mother, than of the father. The former has, or ought to have, her young children constantly under her eye, and can rouse their curiosity, cherish their mild and benevolent affections, and instruct their minds. Cowley, Cumberland, and Sir William Jones, when they had become eminent and distinguished, confessed that their best powers were strengthened, and their finest feelings cherished by maternal care, vigilance, and anxiety. The biographer of Agricola, in relating the discipline of his early years, respecting Julia Porcilla, his mother, "in hujus sinu indulgentia, que educatus, per omnem honestarum artium cultum pueritiam adolescentiamque transegit."

* Memnonis saxea effigies, ubi radibus solis lecta est, vocalem sonum reddens.—Tacit. Annal. 2. 61.

To the Author of the *Silva*, Number 11.

In looking over the Anthology for the last year I observed in the *Silva* for January, that some gentleman has discovered so great a resemblance in the story of Parnell's Hermit to that of the Hermit in the 18th chapter of Voltaire's *Zadig*, as to induce him to suppose (and not unreasonably) that one of these two writers must in this instance have borrowed from the other. In fact, he has given to one of them a title, which both might have deserved; for one, I believe, has not been more guilty of plagiarism, than the other. The story is much more ancient, than either of these writers; perhaps indeed its first author may have existed earlier than the author to whom I have seen it attributed. In a letter of the once popular, and indeed celebrated Howel to the marquis of Hartford, he speaks of what he styles "an excellent passage, which a noble, speculative knight (Sir P. Herbert) hath in his late conceptions to his son; how a holy anchorite being in a wilderness, among other contemplations he fell to admire the method of Providence, how out of causes, which seem bad to us, he produceth oftentimes good effects; how he suffers virtuous, loyal, and religious men to be oppressed, and others to prosper." The old hermit, transported with these ideas, meets with "a goodly young man," and travels with him for a few days. The young man, in Sir P. Herbert's story, throws a person into the river, whom they meet with on a narrow bridge, strangles the only child of the gentleman who receives them with the most cour-

teous hospitality; steals a silver goblet from their generous host, gives it to the avaricious wretch that treats them with sullen incivility. The fifth day they meet a merchant at the close of the evening, as they approach a town; and on his asking them the way to a town, "the young man puts him in a clear contrary way." The merchant was loaded with money, and by the "misguiding" of the young man escaped both robbery and assassination.—Howel's letters were first published in 1645, and some of them were written as early as 1618.

A RIDDLE, BY COWPER.

I am just two and two, I am warm, I
am cold,
And the parent of numbers that cannot
be told.
I am lawful, unlawful—a duty, a fault,
I am often sold dear, good for nothing
when bought,
An extraordinary boon, and a matter of
course,
And yielded with pleasure when taken
by force.

SOLUTION.

I gave my love the other day
A riddle to explain;
And having read it o'er and o'er,
She could not tell the name.
Then on the fair I cast a glance,
And gather'd resolution;
I slyly prest her rosy lips,
And stole the true solution.

ANOTHER.

'Tis not alone for love to solve
Thy riddle's magick charm;
Ask the fond mother bending o'er
That infant on her circling arm:
Glowing with extacy divine,
She clasps it to her throbbing breast;
And solves the riddle o'er and o'er,
As *kissers* on its lips she prest.

 ORIGINAL POETRY.

—•—

For the Anthology.

WRITTEN ON THE DEATH OF ARTHUR M. WALTER, ESQ.

*Quædam teris hæc tantum fata, neque ultra
Hæc alius. Nimmiam vobis Romana præpago
Vires potens, superi, propria hæc si dona fulscat.—Virg.
Vereor ne negligatius vivam.—Cic.*

IF from the aching bosom of a friend,
Which recent wounds still bleeding sorrows rend,
Might strains of artful melody resound,
And faithfully define his woe profound ;
O Walter, I would dwell upon thy name,
My soul should oft thy hymned memorial frame.
Yet, though the fulness of my burdened heart
Strains most unequal to thy worth impart,
Thou knowest my claim to lead the sorrowing throng,
Though skill nor genius aid my humble song :—
The friendly love, thou living didst not spurn,
May pour the lay, though artless, o'er thy urn.

O memory, then, one healing pause dispense,
A needful respite from my pains intense ;
And my peculiar sorrows so beguile,
As e'en my friendship were forgot the while :
But draw around me all the shadowy train
Of arts and virtues, that his death complain ;
Calmly their several griefs let me relate,
With tearless eye each sad bereavement state.

Science, 'tis thine to mourn thy favourite dead :—
With sable hangings be thy temple spread ;
And in the cypress grove's most dim retreat,
That bounds thy Academe, thy votaries meet.
Who now among thy wandering sons shall stand,
Thy sacred laurel in his gifted hand,
And bid them hope, the faithless world again
Shall love thy rites, and crowd thy honoured fane !—
And bid them rear thy altar, and believe,
Thy worship shall degenerate man retrieve ?
Whilst they, as erst from out the mystick shrine
'Mid Delphick shades, shall hear thy voice divine.

Oh, he was nursed to love thee and revere !
And thou didst smile his youthful vows to hear :
As if, like him, the wisest of our race,
Heaven moved to ask each highest gift of grace,
Thy love had bade him, by thy altar's side,
Claim each best boon, nor fear to be denied.

He knew, that science did from heaven descend,
And therefore judged, that she was virtue's friend ;
Nor doubted, so his moral creed had charged,
The soul grows better, as the mind's enlarged.

Struck with her charms, that bade his heart disclaim
Each mean attachment, each ignoble aim,

From the loud throng, that sordid passions sway,
 In early life he took his separate way,
 To trace her out beside her fountain springs,
 And there commune concerning highest things.
 Thus, while her power and glories he surveyed,
 Each varied excellence his mind essayed :
 Hence in her cause his zeal continual burned,
 And hence each low inglorious toil he spurned,
 To spread her soft dominion o'er mankind,
 The worthy bias of his godlike mind.

How fitted was he for the high employ,
 Witness in early youth his ardent joy,
 When called to trace the steep and lengthened maze,
 That leads where truth her purest light displays.
 How promptly to the intercourse refined
 Of each famed sage, that has adorned mankind,
 Ancient or modern, were his steps impelled,
 As with congenial inspiration filled.
 Well pleased the patriarch's heaven-taught ways to explore,
 Nor less informed in evangelick lore ;
 Each sacred maxim while his life pursued,
 That source sublime his eloquence imbued.
 Tully, at once the orator and sage,
 Could he forego thy all instructive page ?
 Or while the human heart's unfathomed ways,
 Its wiles untold can int'rest or amaze,
 Could, Tacitus, thy angry genius fail
 To guide him through each gloomy-faithful tale ?
 Nor less the flowings of the Grecian lyre
 Tempered with Attick sweets his Roman fire.
 Ah, but for minds like his, how wrapt in dust
 Each virtue of the ancient wise and just !
 How lost those annals, that were meant to raise
 From errors' depths e'en these abandon'd days !

Was it, that, frequent in communion high
 With souls of men long past into the sky,
 His more ethereal parts, that still aspired
 Panting to follow, where those friends retired,
 At length gained power to burst their bands of clay,
 And prematurely sought the realms of day ?
 Sure on that hour my earthly eyes were dimmed,
 Struck with the rays from opening heaven that streamed ;
 Or I had seen, as near thy couch I stood,
 The track of light thy fellow spirits trod.
 Say, oh my heart, if near the scene allowed,
 Where calm beneath him sunk the roseate cloud,
 Had angels stopt their harps, that he might hear
 Ere quits translated, what had been thy prayer ?
 Oh, thou wouldst ne'er, in sight of bliss divine,
 Him thou so lovedst to mortal scenes confine :—
 E'en though he fail to tell his earthly friends,
 He left them not, till sure of vast amends ;
 Until permitted by the Almighty will
 To hover o'er and be their guardian still.

Next, oh my country, in the weeping train
 Thy genius mourns along the darkened plain.

But wherefore ? say, does not thy heaven-blest soil
 Bid golden plenty in each valley smile ?
 Has not each billow, in thy numerous bays,
 Brought foreign riches from a thousand seas ?
 Was't not alone to bless thy new-found shore,
 That freedom left the realms of light once more ?
 And are thy sons to prize the boon unskilled,
 Or weak their arms the envied wealth to shield ?
 While all these blessings in her presence shine,
 Can private grief claim sympathy divine ?
 Alas ! not causeless is the boding fear ;
 In times like these that starts the patriot tear ;
 While wisdom points,—how near the dread array !
 At empires crushed and nations in dismay,—
 Half dares despair for this our favoured land,
 Where heaven-sent freedom took her last firm stand.
 For even here, though freedom must prevail,
 Till faithful virtue in her succours fail,
 Yet virtue, that is human, will repine
 E'en here, if learning and the arts decline.
 Hence she already marks with watchful eyes,
 What hopeful names among her sons arise ;
 What names, in whose protection to repose,
 Though, marshalled near, she sees her Vandal foes,
 What names to rescue truth's dishonoured cause,
 And re-assert the majesty of laws ;
 To charm from faction's cause the simple throng,
 Her falsehood listed, while they thought no wrong ;
 And without party craft persuade the crowd,
 To know the policy, that seeks their good :
 Among the great to check encroaching power,
 And senates guide in each eventful hour,
 From luxury's snares to guide her prosperous race,
 And ancient manners by their lives replace.
 But not the man, whose voice is ofteneft heard,
 In publick scenes, alone has she preferred ;
 Her eagle eyes the dim recess pervade,
 Where noblest minds their patriot labours shade,
 Great souls, reserved for times of highest need,
 For whom she smiling weaves her brightest need.
 And shall her eyes be tearless, when deprived
 Of one, in whom her dearest hopes survived ?
 Ah, she may soon, my heart forebodes, repine,
 O, WALTER, soon, for virtues such as thine.
 For though by taste and studious habits made
 To enjoy each pleasure of the classick shade,
 Yet sure a breast, with generous passion filled,
 From publick use its talents ne'er withheld ;
 True love of human kind, like his, could ne'er
 From active life its needed powers forbear.
 Then say, so long why barred the genial day
 The treasures of his meditations lay ?
 Unbidden gleams of light enough were seen
 To prove the quickening mine was ripe within :
 Sole foible of each generous mind, behold,
 'Twas modest fear forbade his powers unfold.
 But long the enlightened soul cannot confine
 Its gifted radiance ; forth its powers will shine,
 But heaven forbid then an inferiour theme !
 Then speak the ample field, the end supreme.

Lo, his lov'd country, her defence and fame !
 'Tis theirs his full-grown energies to claim.
 Alas, her hopes, how blasted in their prime !
 Anticipation, in the work sublime
 Marking a splendid course, look'd up to hear
 A hovering glory shake its wings in air ;
 But ah, the rushing sound, through æther driven,
 That spirit gave, which vanished into heaven !

From converse with the immortal wise and good,
 Whose real presence claim'd his solitude,
 When to his friends he turned with looks serene,—
 His looks announced perpetual calm within,—
 How more instructive grew each social theme !
 With what new thoughts did every subject teem !
 His fluent reason seized the wandering thought,
 And back to truth and taste from error brought ;
 Within their minds, like dew upon the field,
 His more than mortal meanings were instilled ;
 Hence, thoughtless whence the quickening force derived,
 Their noblest powers but by his culture thrived.
 Fondly their best propensities he'd tend,
 But most the growths of liberal lore commend.
 Oh with what care he'd guard the blooming round,
 Where his fair influence cheered the favoured ground,
 From every poisonous damp and every weed,
 That blights the plant, or checks the genial seed ?
 But most from avarice ; though its rind of gold
 Belies the fruitlessness its leaves infold ;
 And though like gems its settling mildew glows,—
 For lucre still will canker where it grows ;—
 And still the seeds of sense and learning thrive,
 But where the liberal passions all may live.
 Nor was his genius of that cast severe,
 Which keeps the gaieties of life in fear.
 He'd join each circle grouped for festive joy,
 As long as wit and innocence stood by ;
 As long as health could o'er the bowl rejoice,
 And vocal mirth drown slander's jargon voice ;
 Long as the praise of merit could be heard,
 Or one wronged character remained unclear'd :
 Yet still by pleasure's softening arts uncaught,
 Constant the awe of virtue in him wrought.
 Thus the fair elm-tree, stable, solid, vast,
 Shakes not its trunk, though whirlwinds drive the blast ;
 Yet, to each breeze, the gentlest zephyr sends,
 Graceful each branch, and low its summit bends.

How frequent I his well-known door have sought,
 Though health yet claimed no pause from studious thought ;
 Urged him, from classic themes, or legal toil,
 To roam as taste or fancy might beguile ?
 Strayed we where wealth convenes the sons of care ?
 He'd teach to prize a well-stored mind e'en there !
 If rural fields, the sun-bright day, we trod,
 Oh, there I learnt to adore the works of God !
 How blest along the lawn or shady streams
 T' indulge in pastoral or in classic dreams ;
 Or, listening, sit beside him to prolong
 The copious flow of his instructive tongue ;

And thence with furtive ear that knowledge glean,
 In boasted volumes sought, but sought in vain !
 And oft, alas, when filled with torturing care,
 Unsuitable life's disheartening ills to bear,
 Too weak the world's injustice to sustain,...
 The world, that heeds alone the loud and vain ;
 While other friends or thought me fancy-lorn,
 Or lent that pity, which e'en woe can scorn,
 He gave the balm, that healed my wounded soul,
 Councils, that e'en the angry fates control ;
 Called forth the powers, that in the mind expire,
 Unless bold effort test their latent fire ;
 Taught me that fortitude, which...ah, my breast !
 Will it avail to soothe thy recent wounds to rest ?

But stay my thoughts, nor range so near those scenes,
 That wake anew thy own peculiar pains.
 In vain...I see each loved memorial start,
 Rush at the hint, and occupy my heart.
 Still, still my hollow bosom swells with sighs,
 How quick the tear-drops gather in mine eyes !
 They ask that friend, whose ever-opening heart
 Was filled with all that nature could impart ;
 Whose glowing soul a brighter landscape drew
 Than even nature to the poets' view.
 How oft, alas, at summer's earliest hour,
 Ere light had tipped the city's highest tower,
 To where the morning broke, with golden light,
 Upon the distant mountain's utmost height,
 Together have we bided ; with hasty tread
 Wound through the pathless grove or misty mead,
 Loitered adown the winding green lane, hedged
 With wild-rose briars, or with myrtles edged ;
 Till from the pasture, scorched with noon-tide heat,
 The birds chirp faint, the panting cattle bleat ;
 Then to the woodlands wild we'd bend our way,
 In converse sweet there talk away the day :
 There would I list that voice, whose silver tongue
 Leaf-touching breeze or warbling brook out-sung.
 That voice, as pure as is the faintest swell
 Of sweet love's lute, returned from echo's cell.
 Ah, now, like harp of dying bard, unstrung it lies ;
 But list ! it breathes a strain still sweeter in the skies.

Now must I haste, for solace of my woe,
 To tasks that check, though not subdue its flow :
 For to those labours, which through every age
 Mourners have sought, their anguish to assuage,—
 If I betake me in the vale of tears,
 Where sleeping worth the willow shade endears ;
 Perhaps in scenes where nature seems to mourn,
 Each object droops, and wears a look forlorn,
 My woes, poured out amid surrounding grief,
 In many an echoed sigh may find relief.

Oh, there I'll haste to bend o'er WALTER'S URN,
 Though friends at distance watch with deep concern ;
 Or with the world, the heartless world, conceive,
 Madness alone can thus sincerely grieve.
 And though,—for such as friendship ne'er carest,
 How can they feel for the bereaved breast ?—

Though foes, with thoughtless ridicule, profane
 The unguarded burstings of a heart humane :
 Or, with foul hopes, when midnight lowers apace,
 And fancy with strange horrors fills the place,
 Safety beside that airy form to find,
 Which e'er was known to be of gentlest kind,
 I'll wait the white-robed image without dread,
 By friendship missioned from the pitying dead.
 Ah ! every thought, that entered there my breast,
 Should hallowing memory from its flight arrest,
 Each passion note, each meditation prize,
 Each impulse deem a message from the skies.
 Yes, he'll be nigh, who best could teach the art
 From whence affliction learns to mend the heart.
 Thus, until morn the blest communion break ;
 Then to the cultured field I'd swift betake ;
 Collect the rose, that just begins to blow,
 Upon his ever verdant grave to strew ;
 And thence the bay and rooted laurel bear,
 And near that honoured head transplant with care ;
 That head, in life which destined seemed to own
 Learning's bright wreath, and virtue's living crown.

February, 1807.

For the Anthology.

HESPER.

MILD Star of Eve, whose tranquil beams
 Are grateful to the Queen of Love.
 Sweet Planet, whose effulgence gleams
 More bright than all the Pow'rs above,
 And only to the Moon's clear light
 Yields the first honours of the night.

All hail, thou soft, thou holy Star,
 Fair glory of the midnight sky !
 And when my steps are wandering far,
 Leading the shepherd minstrelsy,
 Then if the Moon deny her ray,
 Oh light me, HESPER, on my way !

No savage robber of the dark,
 No foul assassin claims thy aid
 To point his dagger to his mark,
 Or guide him to his plundering trade.
 My gentler errand is to prove
 The transports of requited love.

THE BOSTON REVIEW

FOR

FEBRUARY, 1807.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quæ commutanda, quæ excimenda, arbitraver. Nam ego dicere vero assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ARTICLE 5.

A Summary of the Law of Set-off: with an appendix of cases, argued and determined in the courts of law and equity upon that subject. By Basil Montagu, Esq. of Gray's Inn, Barrister at Law. New-York: I. Riley & Co. Lexitypographick Press. 1806. pp. 123. 8vo.

THIS summary treats of that branch of jurisprudence, which relates to the law of set-off. The author has collected the principles and cases into a small compass, and has treated the subject with good judgment. The paper on which this work is printed, the binding, and the typographical execution are much inferior to many editions of law books, which have been published in the United States, and are in these respects, vastly beneath the London editions.* If our printers and book-binders wish to raise the character of their respective crafts, they must submit to a little more labour in their vocations, and perhaps to sacrifice a small portion of their immediate

* Messrs. I. Riley & Co's editions have been usually very favourable specimens of American work, and very deserving of encouragement.

gains. They ought to be particularly attentive to editions of works in the science of the law, as the reputation of these, even as authorities, is injured by the appearance of negligence in the typographical part of their execution. The gentlemen of the bar are accustomed to pay a high price for professional works, as they are intended for study and reference; and it is because of the superior fidelity, neatness and strength of English editions, that those of our own country are not more encouraged.

In reviewing this Summary, we shall condense the contents into a small compass, that we may present to the profession a concise view of a system, which in Great-Britain approaches very near perfection, and which is but partially known and in use in this commonwealth. This must likewise supply the place of critical remark on the author and the work, to which however they are not liable.

The work is divided into two books: the first is appropriated to *set-off at law*, the second contains a few decisions on *set-off in equity*; the first book contains two sections, the first of which relates to *set-off at common law*, the second, to *set-off by statute*.

It is a rule of decision in every transaction, which consists of receipts and payments, debts and credits, that the balance constitutes the debt. This rule is not enacted by any statute, but flows from natural equity, the observance of which is incumbent on every tribunal. In modern times, the judges of the courts of law in Great Britain have shewn a strong inclination to extend the equitable part of their jurisdiction. Hence we find, that in virtue of the general jurisdiction, which they claim to have over the suitors in their respective courts, and not under the authority of any statute, they allow opposite demands arising on judgments to be set off on motion against each other, whenever such set-off is equitable. Thus, one of several defendants, against whom a judgment had been recovered, was permitted, on suspicion of the plaintiff's insolvency, to set-off a demand, which arose on a separate judgment, which he had obtained against the plaintiff.† In another case, a person who was equitably entitled to a judgment which had been rendered for costs in an action, in which his name did not appear on the record, was permitted to set them off in an action, in which he had been nonsuited.‡ As a further proof of the equitable nature of this practice, it is settled in the King's Bench, that the attorney's lien upon the judgment of his client shall, on his application, be first satisfied, before the opposite party can set-off any judgment, which he has obtained, whether there are the same or different attorneys in the different causes.|| In the Common Pleas,

however, the count has in several decisions held, that the attorney can only have such a lien on the costs, as is subject to the equitable claims of the parties in the cause. But a practice so unjust, by which an attorney is deprived of taking his costs from a fund, which he by his diligence has recovered for his client, has been shaken by a recent case.*

Where mutual demands, originating in distinct causes, exist, the one cannot, at common law, be set off against the other, but each party must seek for his remedy in a separate action. Like the other parts of that ancient system, this rule is founded in good reason: for the plaintiff can be expected to come to trial ready to support only the demand, which he has instituted, and it would be unreasonable, if he might be surprised with any counter claim of the defendant, which is not connected with the transaction. But still, if the plaintiff is indebted to the defendant more or less than the defendant is indebted to him, it is most equitable, that some mode should be devised of striking a balance, without compelling the parties to resort to separate suits. For this purpose, the British parliament has enacted various statutes, some of which have been adopted in this commonwealth, and all of which might perhaps with advantage be incorporated into our judicial code. By these statutes, where mutual debts exist at the commencement of a suit, between the plaintiff and defendant, or where either party sues or is sued in a representative capacity, as executor, administrator, or as the assignee of a bankrupt, if there are mutual debts be-

† *Dennie v. Elliot, Hill and others.*
2. H. Black. 587.

‡ *O'Connor v. Murphy* 1. H. Black. 659.
|| *Mitchell v. Oldfield* 4 T. R. 128.

* *Hall v. Ody.* 2 Pull. & Bos. 29 M.
40 G. III. A. D. 1799.

tween the estate of the principal and the other party, one debt may be set against the other. This may be done by giving it in evidence on the general issue, or by pleading it in bar: except where either of the debts accrued by reason of a penalty contained in a sealed instrument, in which case the debt intended to be set-off must be pleaded in bar, and the plea must state how much is truly and justly due on either side: but in all cases where the general issue is pleaded, notice must be given at the time of pleading, of the particular sum or debt intended to be set-off, and upon what account it became due.

Within this commonwealth, our statutes authorise a defendant, who is sued on a simple contract, not under seal, to give in evidence, under the general issue, his account against the plaintiff, which has been duly filed, for goods delivered, monies paid, or services done. But we think, that the whole admirable system, which prevails in Great Britain, on this subject, is worthy of being adopted within this state; because it is calculated to lessen the number of suits, and to diminish the expense of litigation. By our present law, if the plaintiff is as much or even more indebted to the defendant, than the latter is to him, there is no provision made for striking a balance, except in the limited number of cases, which are stated above. In a court of equity, men are compelled to do what is most clearly just and right to be done; and therefore on application to such a tribunal, the plaintiff might be compelled to strike a balance. But even this course was found in Great Britain to be too tedious to afford an adequate remedy, and therefore the statutes of set-off were enacted to supply the defect.

We should, here, conclude the notice of this book, but as we have mentioned the jurisdiction of the court of chancery, we shall advert to the necessity of adding such a tribunal to our judicial system. It is becoming every day more necessary in this commonwealth, by reason of its increasing numbers and growing commerce. The means of redress for injury, and for the defence of right, should keep pace with the publick necessities. For every wrong there ought to be a remedy well known, and common to all the citizens. We confess there is nothing to apprehend, that our laws will not be sufficiently numerous; but we have something to fear, that from the imperfect organisation of our judicial system, or from the defect of competent tribunals, evils will exist, for the redress of which it belongs to a well regulated government to make an adequate provision. We can enumerate important evils, which may exist, to which our courts of law cannot apply a remedy, and for the redress of which we ought to be able to apply to a court of chancery.

Many valuable estates are held, in this commonwealth by persons, in trust for individuals and bodies corporate. But we have no tribunal to compel the performance of these trusts, if the fiduciary should refuse to account for the profits, or if the *cestui que trust* should require the actual seizure of the estate.

There is no tribunal, in which a trustee of personal property, as, for example, one in whose name publick stock stands in trust for another, can be compelled to transfer the certificates. Nor is there a tribunal, which can compel persons, to whom personal property is assigned, on condition of performing certain duties, to the spe-

cific performance of those duties. A person can, at common law, recover for breach of a covenant only the stipulated penalty for non performance; or damages for the breach to be estimated by a jury. But it may often happen, that this will be an inadequate remedy; and therefore it is desirable, that we may be able to recur to some tribunal, which shall have power to enforce the specific performance of an agreement, unless natural justice should require, that it should not be executed. Our present judicial system is defective in these respects, and hence we infer the necessity of the creation of a Court with Chancery Jurisdiction.

The Chancery is, in its proceedings, absolved from "the stated conciseness and traditional forms" of the courts of law, and modifies its decrees according to the equity of each case. It has power to prescribe or forbid particular things to be done or suffered by a decree *tam in personam quam in rem*. The prohibitory writ, called an *injunction*, which issues from this court, "is more expeditiously and specifically remedial in preventing the waste and spoliation of estates, than redress by action at law. Injunctions are with equal reason granted to inhibit the sudden and iniquitous dissolution of a commercial partnership, to stay proceedings at law, and in general to restrain any injury and mischief not easy to be repaired."† The power which this court has to compel a party to any secret transaction to a conscientious discovery on oath, as for example, to disclose the consideration of a bond, charged to have been obtained by legal fraud, has been found on experi-

ence to promote the ends of justice. This power does not authorise the court to compel a man to confess what would render him liable on a criminal accusation. There arises a temptation to commit perjury, when men are permitted or required to testify where their interest is concerned. But cases frequently occur, where there is no other mode of bringing to light dark things, than by requiring the agents to relate them under the awful sanction of an appeal to Him, who is the certain avenger of perjury.

The Chancery has the power of mitigating, in particular instances, the rigour of positive law, where, from the imperfection of language, or from the nature of general provisions, the letter of the law is in truth at variance with the intention of the legislator. But this does not authorise any violation of a fundamental maxim of the common law, or any decision contrary to the meaning and intent of a statute. The same law prevails in the courts of law and in the chancery, but the great and important benefits, which result from the latter jurisdiction, flow from its mode of administering justice, whereby it is enabled to reach cases, and to apply remedies, to which the former cannot apply adequate relief, or of which they have not cognizance.

It is not our intention to enter into a minute investigation of the original nature or use of courts of chancery. We wish only to suggest the subject to the consideration of those, whose province it is to provide for the public necessities and to whose wisdom, fidelity and power are committed, "*omnis rei publicæ dignitas, omnium civium salus, vita, libertas, armæ, foci, dii penates, bona, fortunæ, ac domicilia.*"

† 1 Woodd. Lectures. 206.
Vol. IV. No. 2.

ART. 6.

American Annals; or a chronological history of America from its discovery in 1492 to 1806. In two volumes. By Abiel Holmes, D. D., A. A. S., S. H. S., minister of the first church in Cambridge. In two volumes. Vol. II. Comprising a period of one hundred and fourteen years. Cambridge, Wm. Hilliard. 8vo. pp. 540.

IT is with no small pleasure we see the other volume of this valuable work emitted from the press. We consider it among the useful publications of this country: and the author has endeavoured to make the book entertaining, as well as useful. It is a kind of family record for those, who are members of the same community; to which they will occasionally recur for facts and dates, and in which they will find lively remarks and biographical sketches well interspersed to increase their general information. Our annals exhibit men worthy of our admiration and love, to whom we look with interest and affection, and whose examples glow, while their precepts teach better than monuments of marble and brass. "There be of them, that left a name behind them, that their names may be reported." "And there be some that have no memorial," as speaks the eastern sage; "who are perished, as though they had never been, and have become as though they had never been born, and their children after them. But these were merciful men, whose righteousness has not been forgotten."

The present volume contains the transactions of New-England, since the charter of William and Mary, more fully than those of the

other parts of America; or rather it may be called the annals of that part of North America, now comprised within the government of the United States; though at times our author refers to important events in South America, and the West Indies.

Soon after Governor Phips arrived with the new charter the country was disturbed by the witchcraft at Salem.

'A strange infatuation had already begun to produce misery in private families and disorder throughout the community. The imputation of witchcraft was accompanied with a prevalent belief of its reality; and the lives of a considerable number of innocent people were sacrificed to blind zeal, and superstitious credulity. The mischief began at Salem in February; but it soon extended into various parts of the colony. The contagion was principally within the county of Essex. Before the close of September, nineteen persons were executed and one pressed to death, all of whom asserted their innocence.'

The Dr. here gives a just view of the conduct of the judges, and the spirit of the people; for which he is much indebted to a most excellent letter, preserved in the Collections of the Historical Society, and written by Thomas Brattle, esq.

There are some curious things extracted from other MSS. especially Judge Sewall's, one of the judges, who condemned these unhappy persons, and afterwards lamented his delusion.

'The trial of the witches in Suffolk, 1684,' says Dr. H. 'manifested, that there was so exact a resemblance between the Old England demons and the *New*, it can hardly be doubted, the arts of the designing were borrowed, and the credulity of the populace augmented from the parent country.'

This remark is confirmed by facts. Glanville had written a book of odd tales and silly legends, to prove that witches may turn into cats and dogs, and that they who have any correspondence, especially carnal copulation with them, may do likewise. This book, which Dr. I. Mather brought over, was read and believed. It was the combustible matter of Salem witchcraft. John Webster, a practitioner in physick, a plain man, but a great philosopher, turned the work of Glanville into ridicule, so that it lost its credit in England; and Robert Calef of Boston did the same in New-England by his *Wonders of the Invisible World*, in which he exposed the influence of the Mathers, and confuted their writings.

Of the pirates who spread so great an alarm along the coast of the Southern colonies, mentioned in page 93, Dr. Holmes might have obtained a more correct account from vol. 6 of State Trials, than perhaps any journalist could afford him. Several of the crew were acquitted, and even some who were found guilty were not executed. Twenty-two were hanged at once in Charleston, and their commander soon after.

* A.D. 1719. The *Aurora Borealis* was first seen in New-England on the 17th of December. It began about 8 o'clock in the evening; and filled the country with terrible alarm. It was viewed as a sign of the last judgment. This phenomenon was first seen in England 6 March, 1715, from the evening to near 3 o'clock in the morning, to the great consternation of the people. P. 99.

A question arises concerning the *Aurora Borealis*, whether it had ever appeared before this time? We see the benefit of *annals*, where remarkable appearan-

ces are marked down; and we have only to wish, that observations had been made in books of an earlier date by the philosophers of Europe. The same causes produce like effects. It would be strange to think this phenomenon had never attracted men's attention before. We put the question then for information, Whether, in the old books, nothing is said about the *Aurora Borealis* among the appearances of the heavens? Whether the ancients have observed any thing about it? What Seneca meant by the *chaasmata cali*? Some have thought he intended the same phenomenon.

In page 123 of this volume we are made acquainted with the number of negroes in South Carolina in 1730. They are estimated to have been 20,000; of which number 10,000 are supposed to have been capable of bearing arms. Their superiority to the white people emboldened them to lay a plot for a general massacre, but it was seasonably discovered, and happily suppressed.

We call that part of the *Annals* very useful, which preserves the account of the population, the trade, treaties with the Indians, &c. Hence we shall quote the statement of the *whale fishery* on the North American coast in the same year.

* For there arrived in England from these coasts, about the month of July, 154 tons of train and whale oil, and 9200 of whale bone. In the first 15 days of July, there arrived at London from the American sugar colonies upward of 10,000 hogsheads of sugar, and 15,000 gallons of rum; and half as much more was computed to have been carried to Bristol, Liverpool, and Glasgow. From Barbadoes, this year, there were exported to Great-Britain 22,769 hogsheads of sugar.

'Six Cherokee Indians accompanied Sir Alexander Cumming to England, where a treaty of peace was signed,' &c. 'The inhabitants of the several towns of the Cherokees amounted to more than 20,000, 6000 of whom were warriors.' P. 125.

For his documents of South Carolina and Georgia, Dr. Holmes is indebted to an anonymous history of those provinces, which was for sale in this town some years ago, but is now scarce. A later edition may have been printed with the author's name; for our annalist refers to *Hewit*, whom we suppose to be one of the ministers of Edinburgh. He some years ago resided in America. To his account of Georgia the Dr. has added certain valuable observations of his own, and some facts, well worth preserving.

A. D. 1746. A curious fact is mentioned for the observation of our spiritual corps.

'Ordination of ministers among the Separates in New England began this year. During the memorable period between 1740 and 1750, there were formed perhaps thirty small separate congregations; some of which were afterward dissolved; others became regular; and ten or twelve, which remained in 1785, were "more and more convinced of the duty of seeking ordination from among the standing ministers."

Dr. Holmes in a note upon this says, that these may be traced to the preaching of George Whitefield. 'Previous to his arrival in New England experienced little innovation. The discourses from the desk, though evangelical, were not impassioned. Such was the state of New-England, when a foreign preacher, young, zealous, eloquent, and daring, appeared in

her churches. The same evangelical truths, which people had from their infancy been taught to regard as divine, were now exhibited in a manner new and surprising; and every dormant passion was excited.' The question is, whether the result of this spiritual *Quixotism* was for the benefit of religion and morality? It completely broke the order and discipline of the New-England churches; it shook the walls of our university; and filled the country with enthusiasm and ill humour. Before this time, the people were governed by pious principles; and their religion had less passion with it. Men, from a sense of duty, attended publick worship; heads of families and magistrates were church members; in every house, there was a regular morning and evening sacrifice. There was peace in the hamlet, honour in the temples, and order in the community. But how soon did the river, which maketh glad the people of God by its gentle streams, to use the figure of the Psalmist, become like the troubled sea, whose waters cast up mire and dirt! Ministers of piety and learning were pointed at by the finger of scorn, and obliged to quit their parishes; the most orthodox preachers, if they had not a voice, and zeal which blazed, were said to be unconverted; and all the tender charities of life were despised, as the filthy rags of a prostitute. If there ever should be a *town-meeting orator*, with talents like Whitefield, and he should make a cry for liberty, and set himself against laws and rulers, the state of society may show, what a revolution our churches suffered from the conduct of that wonderful man. Our author's reflection is very proper; for every historian

should use this motto, *Medium est virtus quod tenesse juvat*. 'In a review of this subject,' says he, 'to condemn indiscriminately were uncharitable, if not impious; to approve, without stricture, were to incur a just charge of weakness and enthusiasm.'

The last 200 pages of this volume are taken up with the affairs which led to the Revolution or were connected with it. Hence it cannot be so interesting to the antiquarian; and it is less important to the common reader, as the same thing has been said so often either by Gordon, Ramsay, Marshall, or Pemberton, who, though mentioned last, is not least worthy of respect; having written a journal of the war, printed in the Historical Collections, which makes up a chief part of the 2d volume, and another book more diffuse upon the subject, in MS. styled *Memoirs of the Revolution in Massachusetts*, besides his chronological papers, to which Dr. H. so frequently recurs.

There are two facts, which our author must have received from *hear-say*, as he quotes no authority; but which are contrary to common report, and to the general account of our historians. In page 335, which takes up the events of the war in 1775, there is a concise description of the battle of *Breed's-hill*, in which words are put in the mouth of Gen. Putnam which we always understood were spoken by Col. Starke. He certainly commanded the troops behind the rail fence, which did such amazing execution upon the British forces as they ascended the hill. Gen. Putnam had no command that day. He went down as a volunteer, like General Warren. The one went into the trenches; the other remained

without, to encourage the men. Had he been the commander, would he not have ordered *Gerrieh* and *Scammel* to join the fighting men, instead of going where men had been placed by their Colonel and were doing their duty, and who were already in the best situation they could be?

Dr. Holmes says Putnam conducted the retreat. He would not have used the expression, had he been on the spot. It is the first time we have ever met with it, as applied to this battle. Instead of a *retreat*, every man ran by himself, or all ran in the most disorderly manner, some over the common and some to Medford, just as they could best avoid the enemy's fire. Gen. Putnam was a deserving officer, but not to be named this day with Col. Starke. No men ever behaved with more courage, than the Americans who fought; none with more cowardice, than those who remained idle at some distance.

It is true, that Dr. H. quotes four lines of poetry, where the merit of Gen. Putnam is celebrated; but a man may be a good poet, and no historian. For facts, we may expect more from old parchments.

The other exception we make is to a marginal note, page 344, where he mentions the death of General Montgomery. It is contrary to an account given in the Historical Collections, Vol. 1st, p. 111. A gentleman furnished that article, who knew every minute circumstance which took place. Our annalist refers to no authority.

On all that part of the volume containing materials for our history since the close of our war with great Britain, we are compelled to say, that it is meagre and unsatisfactory. Yet we cannot accuse

Dr. Holmes of having neglected his duty ; for unfortunately the means were not within his reach. The early part of our history will soon be known with greater certainty, than the later occurrences. We cannot however but regret, that no notice is taken of the history of the questions on the British Treaty.

On page 466 we observe a confusion in the printing of the notes, which we should not have expected from a press so correct, as that of Cambridge. So valuable a work, which may be quoted three centuries hence, should have received a more careful revision, than is usually bestowed on the inflammatory publications of the politicians of an hour, who must know,

Debemur morti nos nostraque.

We are much pleased with the concluding remarks of our author.

Of the three centuries, which have elapsed since the discovery of America, nearly two have passed since the permanent settlement of Virginia. The events of these two centuries are in the highest degree interesting to us ; and for that reason they have been the more recited. The means, by which five millions of people have, in so short a time become planted in a wilderness ; have established free constitutions of Government ; and risen to opulence, to independence, and to national distinction, merit serious inquiry. Much unquestionably is to be ascribed to the salubrity of the climate of North America ; to the fertility and variety of its soil ; to the extent of its sea coast ; to its many navigable rivers ; to the excellent pasturage and fisheries of the north, and the valuable products of the south ; to the enterprise, industry, simplicity of manners, and unconquerable love of liberty, which have characterised the inhabitants ; to the early establishment of schools, and seminaries of

learning, and the general diffusion of knowledge ; to early formation of churches and the regular maintenance of publick worship ; and to the union and co-operation of the colonies, in measures for the defence and interests of the whole. But, whatever has been the influence of these causes, there is still the highest reason for acceding to the conclusions of Washington : " No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand, which conducts the affairs of men, more than the people of the United States. Every step, by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation, seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency." By the same means, and under the same divine patronage, may the prosperity of the United States be protracted until TIME SHALL BE NO LONGER. P. 308.

ART. 7.

The Garland of Flowers ; composed of translations, chiefly original, from the Spanish, Italian, Greek, Latin, &c. By Robert Walpole, esq. B.A. of Trinity college, Cambridge. 'Ne leggano i severi i detti nostri.' Tasso. New-York, reprinted by Riley & Co. 1806.

Few studies have been so diligently cultivated as that of translation, and few are of such extensive utility. It is a kind of classic commerce, which gives us the treasures of every country, and on which few other duties are imposed beside that of fidelity. But there are a species of smugglers and counterfeiters, who have contrived to elude this impost, and who have introduced into the republick a base sort of merchandise. This is most to be lamented. By translation, the obstacles which obstruct the paths of knowledge are in a great measure removed ; and life, which seems too short for per-

fection in any individual branch of science, by this happiest of modern inventions, may be said figuratively to be prolonged.

Most of the flowers which compose this little volume, entitled the Garland, have already been taansplanted into English verse, and we must say by more skilful hands. Some of them have received the labours of great and learned competitors for the poetick laurel. Those which now first appear in English are not indebted to Mr. Walpole for any thing beyond the smoothness of their versification ; perhaps little more should be looked for, as the work is professedly (ridiculous affectation !) the " result of employment in hours of relaxation from other literary pursuits," intended *merely* as "an exercise to become more intimately acquainted with the language of the originals," and as such cannot be a subject of serious criticism. Doubtless the work was published at the earnest solicitation of Mr. Walpole's friends.

Isabel, from the Spanish, is perhaps the best specimen of the writer's ability ; the first stanza is peculiarly happy ; " corrientes aguas puras cristallinas," &c.

' Ye crystal floods, that lave
With gently murmuring wave
These banks, where spring its earliest
sweets exhales ;

Ye lofty shades that show
Within the stream below
Your broad bows bending to the whis-
pering gales.'

Nor is the fourth inferiour to this in point of harmony.

' And is all fled, like dreams
That fade before morn's beams ?
In vain these eyes each grace, each
charm require,' &c.

The fifteenth reads very differently in the edition of the learned

Sanctius, and the English versification is very rough. Perhaps there is not a softer poet in the Spanish language than Garcilasso de Vega ; there is none who has so enriched the poetry of his country.

The *Morgenlied*, from the German of Gesner, is also a beautiful little poem, and we will not say it is here " shorn of its beams."

The sonnet from the Sicilian of Meli nearly resembles the fourteenth canzone of Petrarch, so often and so beautifully translated, that it is wonderful Mr. W. should have attempted it " in his hours of relaxation."

We wish with the translator, that he " had not been prevented by want of time from selecting the originals" from the various authors he has undertaken to translate. It would have been more satisfactory to the reader, and perhaps more favourable to the translator, to have presented the readings of those editions he has used. In a work, where recurrence must be had to so many authors of different languages to test the translator's fidelity, this is still more necessary. But we are sensible, that in most translations, like the little volume in review, " time is always wanted to collect the originals."

ART. 8.

Annals of the life of the Right Hon. William Pitt. Philadelphia, B. Graves, for Hugh Maxwell, &c. 12mo. pp. 138.

THIS work has been for some months before the American public. It issued from the English press shortly after the death of the illustrious personage of whom it professes to be a biography ; was republished in Philadelphia with extraordinary celerity, and has am-

ply repaid the front page, and ac-
tivity of the printers, and a very
rapid sale of a large edition. The
English editor (who, with due mod-
esty, abstains from a preface in the
name of Author) enters upon
his subject, by cautioning the read-
er against "expecting anecdotes,
where he will encounter orations,
and incidents, where he will but
meet with opinions," and candidly
professes to have resorted princi-
pally to the journals of parliament
and the periodical publications for
the matter of his volume. As he
here promises but little—he may
certainly claim the modicum of
merit, due to a literal performance
of this promise; but, while we al-
low him this praise, we think it
our duty to state that another, as
solemp, though but implied, en-
gagement still remains unper-
formed. So alluring a title page
as "Annals of the life of the right
honourable William Pitt," dis-
played in the front of a volume, at
a bookseller's window, is a tacit
promise to the publick, that either
entertainment or instruction, either
novelty of matter or felicity of se-
lection, is to be there obtained.
The credulous purchaser pays
down his money, thrusts the half-
bound treasure, yet damp and
reeking from the press, into his
bosom, retreats with hurried steps
to his chamber, and, in the very
first page, is informed, forsooth,
by the candid Editor, that his pre-
cious work is compounded from
garbled gazettes and pilfered mag-
azines; that it is a book made, by
the scissors, a new edition, of an
old newspaper. We once more
repeat that we think it our solemn
duty to protest against this literary
fraud; and we caution our readers,
before they again consent to the in-
mediable act of paying down their
dollar on the counter of the book-
seller, to borrow his paper cutter,

and take a previous sample of the
whole piece.

In the biography of a man, who,
in a short life of forty-seven years,
had such to rubb a loth station on
the rock of fame, it might be ex-
pected that the first twenty-two
years should have occupied no in-
considerable portion of his life.
Although the period of his
infancy might have been unconsci-
ously dispatched, yet the years
of his adolescence must have fur-
nished ample matter to his histo-
rian; and the cotemporary biog-
rapher might have gathered, from
even colloquial sources, some tes-
timonials of his prematuity of tal-
ents, some prognostics of his future
greatness. The stories of his
college and his university, might
have been collected, the compan-
ions of his amusements and his
studies might have been question-
ed, and the trifling and the philo-
sophick reader would have equally
been gratified by the most com-
mon anecdotes of the early years
of such a man. But the history of
this long period, amounting to
nearly half his life, is hurried over
or compassed in less than two
pages by his paper-spiriting an-
nalist.

William Pitt (says the Editor) was
the youngest son of the illustrious
Earl Chatham, and was born on the
28th of May, 1759, at a time when his
father's glory was at its zenith; and
when, in consequence of the wisdom
of his councils, and the vigour and
promptitude of his decisions, British
valour reigned triumphant in every
part of the globe. On the accession of
his present majesty, that great states-
man, in consequence of new arrange-
ments, retired from the station which
he had so honourably filled, and, assign-
ing his elder sons to the care of offices,
he devoted his own time to the educa-
tion of his favourite child, and, by a
strong and well-sounded persuasion (as
he was in the habit of saying) that
would be the increase of the glory of
the name of Pitt. His classical

knowledge Mr. Pitt acquired under the care of a private tutor at Burton Pynsent, the seat of his father; and the Earl took pleasure in teaching him, while still a youth, to argue with logical precision, and to speak with elegance and force. He accustomed him to the practice of making accurate enquiries respecting every subject that caught his attention, and taught him not to remain satisfied with a superficial observation of appearances. These lessons brought him into an early practice of cool and patient investigation, rarely, if ever, acquired by those who prefer the trappings of eloquence, and the showy ornaments of language, to plain sober diction, and pertinent matter of fact. Under such an able paternal guide, an acute mind could not fail to imbibe a store of sound practical knowledge. The Earl saw in his son, a future statesman, and, in all probability, a future minister of his country also. It was a laudable ambition, and to gratify it he spared no exertions; directing his whole attention to the great object of rendering his son accomplished in all things requisite to form a publick character, and to preserve the lustre already attached to the name of William Pitt. He, himself, frequently entered into disputations with him, and encouraged him to converse with others, upon subjects far above what could be expected from his years. In the management of these arguments, his father would never cease to press him with difficulties: nor would he permit him to stop, till the subject of contention was completely exhausted. By being inured to this method, the son acquired that quality which is of the first consequence in publick life... a sufficient degree of firmness and presence of mind, as well as a ready delivery, in which he was wonderfully aided both by nature and education. That he might enjoy all the benefits of instruction which this country could give him, and at the same time, by a rapid progress in the preliminary studies, qualify himself early for the senate, he was, at between fourteen and fifteen years of age, taken from under the private tuition of the Rev. Mr. Wilson, and entered at Pembroke hall, Cambridge, where he was placed under the tuition of Dr. Turner, now dean of Norwich, and Dr. Pretzman, the present bishop of Lincoln; who, in the ded-

ication of his excellent elementary work on Christian Theology, has, in terms of very affectionate regard, borne the most honorable testimony, not only to the promising abilities, but to the private virtues and amiable dispositions of his illustrious pupil. Mr. Pitt was afterwards entered a student of Lincoln's Inn, and made so rapid a progress in his legal studies, as to be soon called to the bar, with every prospect of success. He once or twice went upon the western circuit, and appeared as junior counsel in several causes. On the dissolution of Parliament in September, 1780, Mr. Pitt was returned for a borough, at the age of 22.

From this era of his political birth until the year of his death, we lose sight of Mr. Pitt (at least in the pages of the annalist) and behold only the politician and the premier. It is not our wish to detain the reader, or swell our review with giving extracts from extracts; but we will content ourselves with referring him to the newspapers of the last eighteen years for specimens of the matter and style of the remainder of the volume. As we have however quoted the first page, we will also quote the last, and, in so doing, believe we have given all, which has any claim to originality:—

During the early part of the year, the greatest efforts had been used by the British government to awaken the continental powers to a just sense of their own honour and of the dangers that awaited them from the enormous power of France, and to induce the three great princes to make common cause with this country. Bonaparte in the meanwhile was increasing his preparations for invasion, and they were so nearly matured, that the attempt was expected to be made every day, when the French troops were suddenly marched from Bologne to Germany. A coalition had indeed been formed, and upon a scale of such magnitude, that ministers, with reason, hoped a most successful issue. The precipitancy and fatal errors of the Austrians are known, and the consequent defeat

of the collected monarchs by the disgraceful capitulation of Ulm, and the victory of Austerlitz, which enabled Bonaparte to dictate peace to the emperor of Germany, to compel the emperor of Russia to march his army back to his own dominions, and to new-model the territories and governments of the German princes. The depression which events so calamitous, and so entirely beyond the ordinary occurrences of war, produced in England, was great and general. The nation could scarcely be roused by the glorious battle of Trafalgar. Mr. Pitt, whose health had long been declining under the fatigues of never-ceasing attention to the affairs of his country, sunk beneath the calamity. He had been to Bath for the benefit of the waters, and had returned to London for the purpose of attending the meeting of parliament, when his disorder increased to an alarming degree. It was an hereditary gout, attended with extreme weakness brought on by a too anxious attention to business. His nervous system was so shattered as to deprive him for weeks together of sleep. Water in the chest, and extraordinary debility of the stomach, supervened. On Tuesday, the 21st of January, 1806, his disorder was so aggravated, that all expectation was at an end. It became necessary for his physicians to declare an opinion, and that Mr. Pitt himself should be made acquainted with his imminent danger. The bishop of Lincoln, his tutor and friend, who had constantly attended him, fulfilled the painful office with firmness. Mr. Pitt was hardly sensible: this dreaded shock had scarcely power to dissipate his lethargy; but after a few moments he waved his hand, and was left alone with the bishop. He had desired that some papers should be brought to him, to which his signature was necessary; and after he had settled all worldly concerns, he desired to receive the sacrament from his venerable friend, and it was accordingly administered. Some time passed in the solemn duties of religion. His will was made in a calm interval between this time and the following day. He had signified a desire to write a few lines, but his exhausted condition deprived him of the power. The physicians now thought proper to discontinue medicine. During the morning of Wednesday repeated inquiries were

made after him, and a statement of his danger was transmitted to his majesty, to his relations, and most of his friends; lady Hester Stanhope, his niece, and Mr. James Stanhope had an interview with him on Wednesday morning, and received his last adieu; his brother, the earl of Chatham, took his last farewell in the afternoon. The bishop of Lincoln continued with him all night. The mortal symptoms were now approaching to a crisis. His extremities were already cold, and his senses began to fail. As a last and desperate effort to protract life, blisters were applied to the soles of his feet; they restored him to something of sensation and recollection, but they could arrest nothing of the progress of death. It is said that he continued clear and composed till a short time before his dissolution, which took place without a struggle, at half past four on the Thursday morning, and the last words that trembled on his lips were "OH MY COUNTRY."

We feel unwilling to dismiss this volume, without bestowing on it some signal marks of our unqualified censure. We would wish, with censorial justice, to gibbet it, in terrour to those writers, "who make books, as apothecaries make medicines, by pouring from one vessel into another." But its subject has saved it: the medal intrinsically is worthless, but the image and superscription are divine; nor could we, without scruple, assign, to the cook or the trunkmaker, those pages which are sanctified by the magnum et venerabile nomen of William Pitt.

ART. 9.

Letters on the existence and character of the Deity, and on the moral state of man. By Thomas Dobson. Philadelphia, printed by the author. 2 vols. 12mo.

In the preface the author laments the general want of scriptural knowledge among young

men, and informs us that these letters "were designed as materials or hints for thinking, and are published with an earnest desire of drawing the attention of young persons to the study of those subjects which are universally important." We were ready to give every degree of credit, and make every allowance that might possibly be required, to a writer who proceeded on such worthy motives; and were much pleased with the perspicuity of his style, and the clearness with which he evinces the general truths of christianity, in the first part of his work; but hope and confidence were soon displaced by surprise and disappointment, when we found the sole aim, and scope of the whole work, was to revive exploded heresies, to propagate erroneous opinions, and give to wild unfounded conjectures the semblance of established truth. Such is the tendency of these letters, which exhibit their author as a Pythagorean, a Universalist, and an Anabaptist.

That we should combat the fanciful notion of a metempsychosis, or the doctrines of universal redemption, and the impropriety of baptising infants, is perfectly unnecessary. Orthodox christians, who have been at any pains to examine their faith, and know upon what foundation it stands, are satisfied that these points have been amply discussed by able men, have been long settled, and the rubbish thrown aside by all *straight-headed* persons, who wish not to be interrupted in the right path, and presume not to be wise above what is written. With respect to the uninformed, they can be directed to better sources, from whence to derive more satisfaction than either our time or talents can furnish for them. We will, however, observe that Mr. Dobson, in his translation

of the Greek words *αἰών* and *αἰώνιος* is not authorized by the best lexicographers and commentators. The adjective, in its primary sense, signifies a *real and proper eternity*. It is an universal rule, in all languages, that words must be taken in their original acceptation, unless there be some concomitant circumstance, express or implied, to give them a figurative sense. "The words *everlasting, eternal, forever,* and the like, (says bishop Newton) are sometimes used in a limited sense, or do not always signify an endless duration. But whenever these words do not signify an endless duration, it is because they are applied to things, which are only of temporary duration, and manifestly and confessedly known to be such. The sense is limited and restrained by the nature of the thing. But when the nature of the thing does not limit and restrain it, the words should certainly be taken in their proper and genuine signification." *Newton's Works, vol. 6, p. 353.*

Unless Mr. D. can prove, that he understands Greek better than the ablest divines, who have written on this subject, we shall not feel inclined to adopt his translations.

When an author again intrudes upon the publick, topics which were once in controversy, but upon which the greatest number of most learned and eminent divines have clearly decided; there is reason to fear that he can have no other object in view than to increase the perplexity of those who still doubt, and mislead the weak and wavering; who are easily "blown about by every wind of doctrine;" for what effect can he expect to produce on men of ability, who, with upright intentions, have examined for themselves? But, perhaps, he flatters himself

that he has gone deeper into the subject than his predecessors in heterodoxy, and has brought forward arguments not only new, but of more force and efficacy than any others; if such are his notions, we must take the liberty to undeceive him, and assure him we have seen

the very same subjects attempted to be supported by the very same and many other arguments, in which we have found more ingenuity and plausibility than is in our power to compliment him with.

CATALOGUE

OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

For FEBRUARY, 1807.

Sua bona, sunt quaedam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

An Experimental Inquiry into the Chemical and Medical Properties of the Statick Linnæum of Linnæus. By Valentine Mott; citizen of the state of New-York, and president of the American Esculapian Society. New-York, T. & J. Swords.

A Catalogue of Plants contained in the Botanic Garden at Elgin, in the County of New-York, established in 1801, by David Hosack, M.D. professor of Botany and Materia Medica in Columbia College, and Fellow of the Linnæan Society in London. New-York, T. & J. Swords.

The Mental Flower Garden, or, an instructive and entertaining Companion for the Fair Sex. In two parts. To which are added, interesting sketches of Female Biography, ornamented with appropriate copper plates. By a Friend to the Fair Sex. 12mo. \$1 bound. New-York.

Love: A Poem, delivered before the E. E. branch of the Non Descript Club. By the H. C. Newburyport. Feb. 1807. E. W. Allen.

The Christian Monitor, No. IV, a religious periodical work, by a Society for promoting christian knowledge, &c. containing Nine Discourses on Relative Duties, and Reasons for believing the truth of Divine Revelation. 12mo. pp. 192. wove paper. 30 cents; boards. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

A full Statement of the Trial and Acquittal of Assen Burr, Esq. containing all the proceedings and debates that

took place before the federal court at Frankfort, Kentucky, November 25th, 1806. 8vo. 25 cts. New-York, Cotton and Stewart.

The Catechism of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. To which is annexed, a Catechism, designed as an explanation and enlargement of the Church Catechism; recommended by the Bishop and Clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of New-York. 3d edition. New-York, T. & J. Swords.

The Domestic Chaplain: Being fifty-two short Lectures, with appropriate Hymns, on the most interesting subjects, for every Lord's day in the year. Designed for the improvement of families of every christian denomination. By John Stanford, M.A. New-York, T. & J. Swords.

Oration, delivered before the Officers and Members of Merrimack Lodge, Haverhill, on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, December 27th, 1806. By M^rGregore Burnside, A. S. preceptor of Franklin academy, Andover, Mass. 8vo. Haverhill, F. Gould.

The duty and character of a gospel bishop illustrated. A sermon preached Oct. 30, 1803, at the ordination of the Rev. William B. Wesson to the pastoral office over the church and society in Hardwick. By Joseph Lee, A. M. pastor of the church in Royalston. Wright, Northampton.

Observations upon Baptism, delivered at Ipswich, south parish, June 12, 1806. By Joseph Dana, D. D. pastor of the church in that place; with a view of

introductory circumstances and proceedings in the said church. pp. 24. Blunt, Newburyport.

A Sermon preached at the ordination of (Rev.) Nathan, Waldo, at Williamstown, Vt. Feb. 26, 1806. By Elijah Parish, pastor of the church in Byfield, Mass. Davis, Hanover, N. H.

A Letter to the inhabitants of the city and state of New York: on the subject of the commerce of the western waters.—By Agricola. New-York, S. Gould. pp. 40. 12mo.

A Collection of Hymns, for youth, By John Stanford, M.A. New-York, T. & J. Swords.

The Free-Mason's Vocal Assistant, (both in French and English) and Register of the Lodges of Masons in South Carolina and Georgia. Charleston, S.C. J. J. Negrim.

NEW EDITIONS OF WORKS.

The Life of the late Right Honourable Charles James Fox: exhibiting a faithful account of the most remarkable events of his political career, and a delineation of his character as a statesman, orator, and man of fashion. Comprehending numerous anecdotes of his public and private life; and an accurate description of the ceremonies which took place at his funeral in Westminster abbey, on the 10 October, 1806. By B. C. Walpole, Esq. To which is added, the character of Mr. Fox, by R. B. Sheridan, Esq. 81 boards. New-York, Ezra Sargeant.

Number I. of the second Boston edition of Shakespeare's Plays. Containing Rowe's life of Shakespeare, Dr. Johnson's preface, the Tempest, Two Gentlemen of Verona, with notes by Johnson, &c. 12mo. price 42 cts. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

The Life of Malsherbes. 12mo. 87½ cts. bound. New-York, Brisson & Brannan.

The Wanderer in Switzerland, and other Poems. By James Montgomery. 12mo. New York, S. Stansbury.

Observations on the disease called the Plague, on the Dysemtery, the Ophthalmia of Egypt, and on the means of prevention. With some remarks on the Yellow Fever of Cadiz, and the description and plan of an Hospital for the reception of patients affected with epidemic and contagious diseases. By F. Assalini, M.D. one of the chief sur-

geons of the Consular Guards, &c.—Translated from the French, by Adam Nicolson, of the University, of Edinburgh. Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of that city, and late surgeon of the Shropshire Regiment of militia. To which is added, a Letter concerning the Seasoning, or Yellow Fever of the West-Indies: By George Pinckard, M.D.—New-York, T. & J. Swords.

The World Unmasked, or the Philosopher the greatest cheat. In twenty-four Dialogues—Translated from the French, 51. Philadelphia, Thomas Dobson.

A correct statement of the whole preliminary controversy between Thos. O. Selfridge, Esq. and Benj. Austin; also a brief account of the catastrophe in State-Street, on the 4th of August, 1806: with some remarks. By Thos. O. Selfridge. *He takes my life, when he doth take the means, whereby I live.*—Second edition. 8vo. Charlestown.

The Christian Institutes; or, the sincere word of God. Being a plain and impartial account of the whole, faith and duty of a christian; Collected out of the writings of the Old and New Testament: digested under proper heads, and delivered in the words of scripture. By the Right Rev. Father in God, Francis, late bishop of Chester. The 1st American, from the 12th London edition. 12mo: pp. 330. New-York. T. & J. Swords.

The Grave, a poem, by Robert Blair. To which is added, Gray's Elegy in a Country Church-yard. 12mo. Newburyport, W. & J. Gilman.

Memoirs of Captain Roger Clap, one of the first settlers of New-England, containing an account of the hardships which he and others experienced on their landing. 12mo. 37 cents, marble covers. Boston, Wm. T. Clap.

Introduction to the English Reader, or a selection of pieces in prose and poetry, calculated to improve the younger class of learners in reading, and to imbue their minds with the love of virtue; with rules and observations for assisting children to read with propriety. By Lindley Murray, author of the English Grammar, &c. Improved edition. New-York, Collins & Perkins.

Genius Religion, the best Friend of the People; or, the influence of the gospel, when known, believed and experienced upon the manners and happiness of the people. By Archibald Bo-

ms. 12mo. Price 12 cts. Charles
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The Christian Character exemplified
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 Arden, late wife of Frederick Charles
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WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Memoirs of the Life of Marmontel,
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 ban & Brannan.

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 dy. 12mo. Brisban & Brannan.

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 mar, revised and greatly enlarged by the
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 bel. Taken in short hand, by William
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The Life of Samuel Johnson, L.L.D.
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 sisting of a volume of his Sermons,
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 tion of 12-12 per cent. will be made
 to all who take and pay for 6 vols. or
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 and character will be prefixed to one
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 the sales will be for the benefit of the
 widow. The MSS. which are in part
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 the hands of the printer, without delay,
 and published with all convenient dis-
 patch. These vols. take the place of
 the single volume of sermons, proposed
 soon after the author's decease.

A view of the economy of the church
 of God, as it existed in its primitive

form, under the Abrahamic dispensation and the Sinai law; and as it is perpetuated under the more luminous dispensation of the Gospel; particularly in regard to the covenants. By Samuel Austin, A. M. minister of the gospel in Worcester, Massachusetts. Thomas & Sturtevant.

The Mysteries of the Castle; or, the Victim of Revenge. A drama, in five

acts. By B. J. White. Price to subscribers 50 cts. Charleston, S. C. J. K. Neenan.

The Penitential Tyrant; or Slave Trader Reformed: a poem, in 4 parts. By Thomas Branagan. New-York, S. Wood. This work has had one impression, but is now enlarged, by the author, and corrected.

INTELLIGENCE.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL—

DOMESTICK.

A new case in legislation.

We have heard of the degree of Doctor of Physick having been conferred in certain European universities, by royal mandate. This course of proceeding, although at first view it may appear a little irregular, is, however, on reflection, found to be perfectly consistent with the principles of a monarchy, which make the sovereign the fountain of all titles of honour. There is an instance in New-York, where the legislature interfered by an express statute to enable an individual, named William Firby, to practise physick and surgery. This law was passed in April, 1804. The preamble states, that a number of inhabitants of Suffolk county had attested the performance of extraordinary cures by him, principally of the scorbutick kind; that he could not comply with the terms required by the existing statute to obtain a regular license; and that they hoped he might nevertheless be authorised; whereupon it was enacted, that the first judge of the county, in case it should appear to his satisfaction, by three reputable physicians practising in the county, that the said person was qualified to practise physick and surgery, or either of them, to grant him a certificate thereof. And the filing of this certificate in the county clerk's office was declared to be a licence to practise in the State, any law to the contrary notwithstanding. This savours very much of obtaining the doctorate by popular mandate.

Messrs. John Conrad & Co. of New-York, have announced their intention of publishing, under the direction of Mr. Brown, an annual register of the United States. To commence with the present year.

Mr. R. Field, of Boston, has issued proposals for engraving a likeness of Gen. Henry Knox, from a very excellent portrait by Stuart, taken but a few weeks before his decease. The size of the plate to be 12 inches by 10. Price \$3 to be delivered in two months from the commencement of the engraving.

Col. Trumbull, of New-York, has issued proposals for publishing, by subscription (early next summer, price \$10) two small Prints, one presenting the death of Gen. Warren, at the battle of Bunker's-Hill; the other, the death of Gen. Montgomery, at the attack of Quebec.

FOREIGN.

We have already noticed the meritorious exertions of Dr. Harrison for restoring the dignity and character of the Medical Profession; the following has been communicated to us as THE PLAN which will be submitted at the ensuing session of the British parliament.—No person shall practise as physician, unless he be a graduate of some university in the united kingdoms, and has attained the age of twenty-four years.—He shall have studied the different branches of physick in an university or other respectable school or schools of physick, during the space of five years, two of which shall have been passed in the university where he takes his degree.—No person shall practise as surgeon under three and twenty years of age, nor under

he has obtained a diploma or licence from some one of the royal colleges of surgeons, or other chirogical corporations of the united kingdoms.—He shall have served an apprenticeship of five years to a practitioner in surgery, and afterwards have spent at least two years in the study of anatomy and surgery in a reputable school or schools during the space of at least one year, and shall have attained the age of twenty-one years. No man shall practise midwifery, unless he has attended anatomical lectures twelve months, and received instructions for the same term from some experienced accoucheur, and shall have assisted at real labours.—And no female shall practise midwifery without a certificate of fitness and qualification from some regular practitioner or practitioners in that branch. No person shall follow the business of a retail chemist or druggist, unless he shall have served an apprenticeship of five years to that art. None of these restrictions to be construed to affect persons at present regularly practising, in the different branches of medicine. A register shall be kept of all medical practitioners in the united kingdom; and every person in future, entering upon the practice of any branch of the profession shall pay a fine on admission.

Mr. M. HAUGHTON'S series of engravings from Milton, Shakespeare, and Dante, after paintings by Mr. Fuseli, is forwarding as expeditiously as the nature of the work will admit. Five from Milton are already published, and the large plate of the Vision of the Lazarhouse is in hand. Mr. Haughton is distinguished for correctness of outline, and the mode of executing the fleshy parts of the figures is wholly original.

Proposals are issued for publishing The genuine Works of William Hogarth; illustrated with biographical anecdotes, a chronological catalogue, and commentary. By John Nichols, F.S.A. Edinb. and Perth; and the late George Stevens, esq. F.S.A. and F.S.A. In 16 Numbers, each number contain-

ing 7 or 8 plates, and about 40 pages of letter-press—making, when complete, two handsome volumes in quarto. The letter-press will be executed in a suitable style, to accompany at least 120 plates, to be engraved by Mr. Cook. Price \$5 per No. on demy paper; or \$6 on royal paper, with proof impressions of the plates. Subscriptions received in New York by E. Sargeant.

STATEMENT OF DISEASES, &c.

from Jan. 20 to Feb. 20.

The atmosphere has been generally clear and cloudless during the past month; yet we have had considerable snows, followed by heavy rains. The winds principally from the north-west. The east winds just begin to appear. The atmospheric temperature has been more equable than that of the last month.

A very general epidemick disease has prevailed, which has commonly commenced with an inflammatory affection of the throat, succeeded by short, dry cough, pains in the thoracick region and symptoms of pyrexia. This complaint has yielded to medical applications, nor has it, that we know of, proved fatal. Cases of acute pneumonic inflammation distinct from the above mentioned disease, have been rare. Acute rheumatism common. Sporadic and fatal cases of scarlatina-anginosa have occurred. Diseases of children very few in number.

EDITORS' NOTES.

'Account of Pedro de la Gasca, a Spanish priest,' is received and under consideration.

'Love, a poem delivered before the Nondescript club, by a youth.' The truly nondescript farrago of this amorous little swain is well worthy a nondescript society. We shall only say to this juvenile inamorate, as Shakespeare's Celia to Orlando, Young gentleman, your spirits are too bold for your years.

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY

FOR
MARCH, 1807.

For the Anthology.

AN ESSAY UPON THE MULTIPLICITY OF OUR LITERARY INSTITUTIONS.

NO. I.

THE rapid growth and population of the United States have excited the wonder and astonishment of Europe. While many countries of the old world have been retrograding from their former prosperity, and while the most flourishing have advanced with slow and painful steps to their present importance, America seems to have been exempted from the common lot of nations, and to have risen in the short period of thirty years to a distinguished rank in the world. The Grecian colonies proceeded, like Minerva, from their parent at the full period of maturity, and then slowly advanced or declined with the nations around them. The United States on the contrary, deprived in early infancy of a mother's fostering care, had long to struggle for independence; but, from the moment that was obtained, she has surpassed the sanguine expectations of ideal calculations, and has increased beyond any former example in numbers, strength, and riches, and

we might add learning, were an opinion to be formed from the number of her literary institutions. While the growing political importance of the United States is acknowledged by every one, it may be useful to inquire how far her numerous schools, academies, and colleges entitle her to the character of being really learned.

New England, with less than double the population of either London or Paris, can boast of possessing more Universities, than either England or France.

Academies are established in every part of the country, and not a village, but has its schools. Indeed strangers might reasonably expect to find learning possessed here by every peasant, to see numbers in every village familiar with the writings of the ancients, or who had explored the deepest recesses of science; and that her universities would annually produce numbers, who by their taste and erudition might enlighten their own age, and advance the rising generation. It

is true, that information is more generally possessed in New-England, than in almost any other country in the world; that there are few, who are unacquainted with the first rudiments of learning; that a competent knowledge of mechanicks, but more particularly of geography, is generally diffused through the country; but in politics, to which every one thinks himself competent, the people are the dupes of every designing knave; while the higher branches of learning, those which cleave the soul, and teach man the use of his noble faculties, droop for want of culture. The tree puts forth leaves most luxuriantly, but the fruit is without flavour. Our colleges are careful to exhibit catalogues, of the numbers, whose brows they have encircled with the laurel wreath, but more care is taken to enrol their names, than to store their minds. Indeed the little learning, that is acquired at our colleges, is frequently left within their walls, or is soon dissipated amidst the bustle of active life. Frequently even the professional student does not scruple to throw aside his classics for the more profitable study of cent. per cent. Some leave good sense and useful knowledge behind them to carry only a remembrance of words into their commerce with the world. They confound the ignorant by their use of hard terms, and men of information by their conceit and jargon. For the truth of this observation we appeal to the orations, which the prolific month of July annually produces, which defy all criticism, and excite the gape and admiration of the multitude, by being as totally beyond their comprehension, as they are deficient in common sense. As, at

most of our colleges degrees are obtained without any exercise being performed or any examination passed, it will readily be granted that degrees are frequently conferred without merit; but at the same time it may be asked, whether many of the pupils may not contend with the first scholars of Europe for literary fame. So far indeed is this from being the case, that an English school-boy must possess a classical knowledge, superiour to what is required here at any period of an university education. Many, at the moment of receiving their degree, could not pass the examination, by which they gained admittance. Indeed not only are the students allowed to neglect the studies of the college; but those studies are inadequate to the formation of a finished scholar. Nor do the colleges afford the proper means of instruction, either in classick literature or abstruse science. For the truth of these observations ask the first scholars of our country, whether they do not owe their present eminence to their own exertions, rather than to the fostering care of their alma mater: Vain would be the attempt to improve the internal regulations, without a radical reform in the whole system. Upon the present weak pillars the cumbersome superstructure could not be supported, but must speedily fall to the ground; the inadequate compensation of its officers is a defect, which pervades every branch of our government, and prevents its commanding the first talents for any situation. An office, without allowing its possessor a proper support, holds him, as a mark, for envy and discontent to shoot at. Indeed a man of abilities must possess uncommon ambition or

uncommon patriotism, that will accept an office either in the state or college. The teachers of our schools are those, who will serve cheapest, not those, who know their duty best. An instructor at an academy may hope to obtain the wages of a day-labourer, and a tutor at college generally receives as much, as a mechanick can earn by the sweat of his brow. At the same time, our democrattick ideas would lead us to divide these paltry stipends among a still larger number of institutions; for every one supposes himself injured by the establishment of any institution nearer to his neighbour, than to himself. We have not, it is true, travelling colleges, or travelling academies; but as we have in some states travelling legislatures, and, in our own, travelling law courts, we may still hope for this further improvement. The multiplicity of colleges may tend to the diffusion of knowledge; but it likewise tends to disperse the rays. Collected into one focus, they might kindle some happy luminaries to give light and warmth to an age, but now, dispersed, are lost on too wide a surface. The same funds, which now faintly move through the veins of our numerous colleges, would give life and animation to one university, and excite an impulse, that would bring every dormant faculty into operation. When the parent is sickly, can we expect the offspring to be robust? and because some are endued with so strong a constitution, and such lively powers, as to overcome the disadvantages of education, shall we therefore praise the institution, that could not check their progress? The chair of a professor, instead of being sought for as the reward of industrious merit, can

with difficulty be filled. Sense of duty alone can induce any man of talents to accept it, and retirement is considered far preferable to the most dignified situation at the first of our universities. The tutors only regard their situation as affording them time and opportunity to prepare for some permanent situation in life; they cannot therefore be expected to give more time to the discharge of their duty, than the discipline of the college absolutely requires.— Their thoughts must be devoted to their future prospects, rather than to their present drudgery. How could the best internal regulations raise such an institution to any degree of eminence? If such is the situation of our first universities, what shall we think of those minor institutions, where the stipend can never enable the instructor to maintain the rank of gentlemen, and where, banished from polished society, they can have little inducement to mental exertion? Their libraries, philosophical apparatus, and all the necessary, but expensive accompaniments of an university, are on the same contracted scale. The philosopher would wish, that his senses were deceived by some optical illusion, and that the sun of science, which appeared multiplied, but shorn of his beams, really existed, and would one day appear to us in his native splendour and beauty. The cheapness of instruction and of living attracts numbers to these inferior colleges; for a degree from one of them will save as much time to the law student, will introduce the physician as readily into practice, and will as speedily procure a settlement for the divine, as from the first university in the world. Should it be objected that, altho' the edu

cation is not so perfect, yet it is afforded to a much larger number, than could be instructed at one university, which would be necessarily more expensive, the fact would be granted; but whence arises the benefit of giving such numbers an university education? Most, who receive it, think they must of course enter one of the three professions, law, physick or divinity, all of which are now greatly crowded. The abundance of the article has rendered the labours of the divine so cheap, that in the country he is frequently obliged to resort to the labour of his hands for the support of himself and family. The lawyer, who can neither descend to encourage the litigious spirit of his neighbours, nor to take advantage of their necessities, if he has neither powerful friends nor great ta-

lents, must for a long time content himself with the most moderate income. If the medical has formerly been less thronged than the other professions, it can no longer boast that exemption; and we much fear, that many worthy characters, unwilling to resort to empirick arts, must remain unrecompens'd and unknown. Shall we therefore tempt greater numbers from the shop or from the plough to enter these professions already more than filled? Should the numbers be diminished, we have no fear, that industrious merit would be excluded from advantages now enjoyed. Private and publick liberality might make ample provision for exciting into action those latent sparks of genius, which now lie concealed in the humble walks of life.

AMUSEMENT.

For the Anthology.

High Diddle! Diddle!
 The cat's in the fiddle!
 The cow jump'd over the moon!
 The little dog laugh'd
 To see the sport;
 And the dish ran after the spoon!

NO. I.

THE above lines are very generally, though very superficially known: they have, in this country, been confin'd almost altogether to the use of children; whereas, among the Germans, they have been rendered into several languages, and have received the various annotations of the most learned men. That very profound scholar, Loshwhsztcntschckoffershoff, has given a translation of them into Latin and Hebrew, with notes, &c. 6 vols.

fol. He has the following curious remarks respecting their author: *Viri quanquam multi, doctissimi, ac nullius rei nescii, quæ scientiam spectat, hos versus elegantissimos ab Anglicano aliquo scriptos fuisse crediderunt, nullo modo tamen in eandem sententiam venire possum. Plane mihi constat, hoc jucundum poema scriptum fuisse ab Achivorum aliquo, anno circiter ante Christum 1184; nam hoc anno Troja capta fuit. Ergo judico multa illo*

tempore accidisse miracula, quorum aliquæ his versibus numerari poeta voluit. Vol. 3, p. 748, not in Excurs. 24, q. v. This learned man in another place mentions, that they were probably first brought into England in the time of Claudius, 45 B. C. when Aulus Plautius was sent against the Britons.

We propose to enter into a criticism of the above poem in a series of numbers: as we shall study brevity as much as possible, the series will not exceed thirty, although the many beauties of this performance would lead us into a much longer dissertation. The poet begins with an address to his patron. Few poems, which commence with a compliment to the author's patron, are so elegant and concise, in this particular, as the production before us. This poet has addressed his Mæcenas under the title of Diddle; and there is a certain elegance in the repetition of the name, which, while it impresses the title more strongly on the mind, increases the beauty of the poem, by adding smoothness to the verse. Horace had this in view, in the 14th Ode of the 2d book, where he addresses Postumus:

Eheu! fugaces, Postume, Postume, &c.

But he has fallen far short of the original, by introducing the word *fugaces*, which is connected with the line below; and, where the same writer addresses Mæcenas, he has nothing of that beautiful brevity, which characterises the first line of the production under review:

Mæcenas, stavis edite regibus, &c.

How is this to be compared to the following?

High Diddle Diddle!

The epithet *High* is, in fact, the greatest compliment, that Diddle could possibly receive. He was probably the same as "high chancellor" in the age in which he lived, and a much greater man than either Mæcenas or Postumus:

It has been called in question, whether or no this line was really intended, as the beginning of the poem, by the author himself. How much, in this respect, does the performance before us resemble the *Æneid* of Virgil! But this is not the proper place to institute a comparison between these two celebrated productions of the human mind.

The German critic, whose name we have already mentioned, conceives that the old English reading is very incorrect; and that it conveys nothing like the original meaning. He conjectures that the first line was addressed to Venus, and supposes the Greek line stood thus;

Ἐἴ, Διδάλα, Διδάλα,

This however seems altogether improbable, on several grounds. Venus could not be invoked to assist the poet, as appears by the exclamation *εἴ*, and it is not to be supposed that she would be invoked by a Greek, when she was decidedly in favour of the Trojans. We rather conclude that Diddle was some person in antiquity, who held some publick office; that he was the particular friend and patron of our poet, and is therefore complimented by him in this beautiful performance.

It may not be improper to mention another conjecture, respecting this particular line, and which is founded on an old English copy, in which the first line stands thus.

I, Diddle, Diddle,—

In this case, Diddle was no other than the poet himself: this we do not believe, although it is by no means impossible, for we find exordiums of the same kind in other eminent works. In Virgil thus: Ille ego, qui quondam gracili modulatus avena, &c. It is not natural to think the writer

would repeat his own name, however frequently he might repeat the title of his patron; we therefore choose to abide by our own opinion, and conclude that the old English reading was as it now stands, in the poem above. S.

To be continued.

LAW OF BLOCKADE.

For the Anthology.

GENTLEMEN,

AS it is the policy of our government to preserve our country in peace during the wars in Europe, every American is in a degree interested in the rules of decisions respecting the rights of neutrals, which different states admit as the *law of nations*. I have devoted a few moments in collecting and arranging the principles, embraced by England in cases in admiralty, in which the breach of blockade has been alleged, as the ground of seizure and condemnation, and communicate them for publication, in hopes that the attempt may induce others of more leisure and better opportunities to inquire, how far the law of nations has been received or modified on other subjects, in which we are equally interested.

As a blockade is a just measure of war, there is no rule of the law of nations better than this,—that the breach of a blockade by neutrals subjects their property to confiscation. This principle is recognized in all books of law, found in all treaties, and universally acknowledged by all governments, which possess any degree of civil knowledge.

To convict a neutral of a breach of blockade, three things must be proved; 1st, the existence of a

blockade; 2d, that the party was duly notified of the fact; and 3dly, that he has violated it, either, 1st, by ingress, or, 2dly, by egress, with a cargo laden after the commencement of the blockade.

1st. Of the existence of a blockade.—A blockade is a circumvallation of a place by a belligerent, by which all foreign connection and correspondence is, as far as human force can effect it, to be entirely cut off, and the right of neutrals to engage in its traffick by importation or exportation is suspended. A blockade may, however, be *partial*, as well as *general*, as on the *land side*, or *sea side*; and in such case the blockade *legally* exists only, so far as it *actually* extends. Hence, where there is only a *maritime* blockade, the *interiour* communications and commerce of the country are no way subject to its operation, and vice versa.

A blockade may commence by the *simple fact* only, or by a public *notification* from belligerent to neutral states, accompanied with the *fact*; for a declaration, unsupported by the *fact*, will neither establish nor extend it. In the case of a blockade *de facto*, when the *fact* ceases (otherwise than by accident or the shifting of the wind),

there is immediately an end of the blockade; but where the fact is accompanied by a notification, though possibly the blockade may expire *de facto*, this is not hastily to be presumed, but on the contrary it is to be considered *prima facie* as existing, till the notification is revoked.

A blockade may be more or less rigorous, either for the single purpose of watching the military operations of the enemy and preventing the egress of their fleet,—or, on a more extended scale, to cut off all access of neutral vessels to the interdicted place, which alone is strictly and properly a blockade; for the other is in truth no blockade at all, as far as neutrals are concerned. So, where a blockade has not been duly carried into effect, where ships have been stopped, examined, and suffered to go in; or where they have received information from ships of the navy of the blockading power, that there was no blockade, no legal blockade exists, which will affect neutrals, under such circumstances, notwithstanding there has been a national declaration of it.

§2. Of the notification of a blockade.—And 1st. Where a blockade is accompanied with a publick declaration of its existence by the belligerent to foreign states, the effect of such notification must be to include all the *individuals* of the nations thus notified, to whom it is the duty of their respective governments to communicate it, even in foreign ports. A neutral master, therefore, can never be heard to aver against such a notification of a blockade, that he is ignorant of it. If he be really ignorant of it, it may be a subject of representation and complaint to his own government, and may raise a claim of compensation from them,

but it can be no plea in the court of a belligerent.

It is not necessary that a notification should be made to every particular nation to affect its subjects. Where it is made to the principal states in Europe, it will in time affect the rest, not so much *proprio vigore*, or by virtue of the direct act, as in the way of *evidence*. It must in process of time reach them, and, though not directly made to them, must, when known, be considered as imposing the same observance of it on them.

2dly. Where a blockade commences *de facto*, it must be notified by the blockading force on the spot to those, who come from a distance and are ignorant of the fact. For if you can prove a previous knowledge of the fact in the neutral, a warning is an idle ceremony, and he may be liable to the consequences of a breach of blockade.

As to vessels coming out with cargoes, &c. from a blockaded port, it is unnecessary to prove any particular knowledge of the fact in the master to subject the property to confiscation, after the blockade has existed *de facto* any length of time. The continued fact is itself a sufficient notice, as it is impossible for those within to be ignorant of the forcible suspension of their commerce.

3d. Of the violation of a blockade.—And 1st. Where a blockade has been solemnly notified, not only an entry into the blockaded port, but the act of sailing to it, constitutes the offence, and subjects the property to confiscation. For a blockade, accompanied with a publick declaration, is presumed to continue till the declaration is revoked. An exception has been made in favour of neutral countries at a great distance from the ports,

which are in a state of blockade. As, from their situation, it is impossible that they should have constant information of the state of the blockade, whether it continue or be relaxed, it is not unnatural that they should send them provisionally to the blockaded ports, on the expectation, that the blockade may have been broken up, after a long continuance. The rigid application of the rule to them would impose a restriction on their commerce for months after neighbouring nations were enjoying a free trade. But this exception is allowed only on condition that a fair inquiry is made in the ports, which lie in the way, and not of the blockading squadron at the blockaded port. The conduct of the neutral in such cases ought to be such, as to excite confidence, and not suspicion; to prove that his provisional destination was fair, and not a guarded expedient of fraud.

2dly. Where a blockade commences and exists *de facto* only, there no presumption arises as to its continuance; and the ignorance of the party may be admitted, as an excuse for sailing on a doubtful and provisional destination. But, in this case, a fair intention will be presumed only, where a fair inquiry is made in the course of the voyage, whether the blockade had determined or not.

Although sailing with an intention of evading a blockade makes the offence complete, and it is not necessary to wait till the goods are actually endeavouring to enter the port under blockade; yet if the goods are not taken *in delicto* and in the actual prosecution of such a voyage, the penalty does not attach. Hence a deviation from the original destination before capture, with an intention to avoid the offence, protects the

property from confiscation. For though the intention was complete from the moment the ship sailed on the destination, and, had it been taken previous to the variation, would have been subject to confiscation; yet, when the variation had actually taken place, however arising, it is not taken *in delicto*, or in the prosecution of an intention of landing goods at a blockaded port. So, where a vessel has sailed on a destination to a blockaded port, after a declaration of the blockade, and in the course of her voyage on inquiry of a fleet of the belligerent, whether the port be blockaded, is informed it is not, from that time a state of innocence commences, and, if taken in prosecution of her original voyage, she is not taken *in delicto*. The information thus given cannot be set up as a license of authority, but may be regarded as intelligence affording reasonable ground of belief, and discharges her, as much as a deviation, from the penalty of the former offence.

A determined adherence to a first intention of entering into a port, after notice of a blockade, will subject a ship to confiscation. A blockade may be broken by obstinacy, as well as by fraud; and if a master says he must and will go into the blockaded port in defiance of notice, his owners must take the consequence of his conduct.

As a legal blockade exists only so far, as it actually extends in case of a maritime blockade, whether the shipment is to terminate, or was begun in a blockaded port by inland transmission of the goods from or to a free port, they are not subject to any penalty. In cases of goods shipped from an enemy's port, that is to be considered, as the place of shipping, where the goods first become connected with the

ship, though conveyed by land or canals from a blockaded port. In the case of goods destined to an enemy's port, that is to be considered as the real destination, where they are to be discharged, though their ulterior destination may be by land or canals to a blockaded port.

2. Not only ingress or entry into a blockaded port, &c. is a breach of blockade, but an egress or departure from a blockaded port, under certain circumstances, is equally criminal.

Where a ship has entered an enemy's port before the commencement of a blockade, she may at any time sail away in ballast, as, from her neutral character and lawful entrance, she is not herself the object of blockade. She may also retire with a cargo, laden on board *before* the blockade begun. But as a blockade is intended to suspend the entire commerce of a place, and as a neutral is no more at liberty to assist the traffick of exportation, than importation, the rule insisted on by the blockading power is, that a neutral ship departing can only take away a cargo

bona fide purchased and delivered before a knowledge of the blockade,—as the purchase, lading, or continuing to lade a cargo, after this is an unlawful interference to assist the commerce of the enemy, and a violation of the blockade.

As a transfer of a ship from one neutral to another is in no manner connected with the commerce of a blockaded port, it is no ground for confiscation of the ship, which has sailed, after the transfer, in ballast. So where goods are sent into a port before a blockade, and are re-shipped by order of the neutral proprietor during a blockade, they have been always exempted from confiscation. For the same rule, which permits neutral merchants to withdraw their ships from a blockaded port, extends also with equal justice to merchandize, sent in *before* the blockade, and withdrawn *bona fide* by the neutral proprietor.

A vessel, which breaks a blockade by egress, is not discharged of the penalty by escaping or avoiding the blockading force, but continues liable to confiscation till the termination of her voyage.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 19.

I give thee thanks in part of thy deserts,
And will with deeds requite thy gentleness.

SHAKES.

THE most detestable being in creation is he, who lives only for himself; who borrows, but never pays; who is willing to receive every thing, and give nothing; who is pleased only at his own success, vulnerable only by his own calamities, and hates his benefactors in the moment of tasting their

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bounty. Gratitude, on the contrary, ranks among the loveliest virtues. It exhibits our nature in a most favourable point of light: it begets confidence among friends, disarms an enemy of anger, and warms the heart of coldness and indifference: it is a fountain of life to the breast where it dwells,

and it diffuses sympathy and joy over the various departments of social life.

It were easy to declaim on this topick ; but to display the proper motives and expression of gratitude is a more serious task. As in the article of religion, not every one who says, I believe, may be classed with the faithful, so neither will the mere delivery of thanks entitle a person to the honours of gratitude. A beneficent and useful life is the best testimony of a grateful disposition. Let me not be understood as discouraging the decent forms of oral civility. When they come from the heart, and are gracefully presented, like the distillations of mercy, they bless both him who bestows and him who accepts them : nothing scarcely is pleasanter, than the language of obligation ; and the sweetest musick in your ear is the voice of him, who acknowledges you a benefactor.

It is, however, of more importance that our hearts should be improved, than our vanity excited ; and the community is more interested, that the idle should be made industrious, and the intemperate sober, than that they should be feasted with the viands of applause, and regaled with the incense of adulation. Words are not always the honest representatives of thoughts : they are sometimes no more to be regarded, than the sound of an instrument, which is destitute of both intention and power. Exhortation is easy ; but practice is difficult : the first may be given from the basest motives ; but in the last there is no deception. Nay, a man may entertain you with handsome speeches, and specious promises, whilst he is meditating mischief. But when you observe a person who, with or

without professions, is constantly adapting his labours to the minds, the wants, and condition of those around him ; when he is as ready to repress the insolence of the proud, as to elevate the head of humble merit ; when, regardless of the popular odium, he boldly maintains the cause of publick justice ; and when, resisting the pressure of indolence and the calls of pleasure, he uniformly and vigorously fulfils the offices of private friendship, and his duties to the state, he then prefers an unquestionable claim to gratitude, and to the dearest privileges in the gift of society.

If this beneficence of character is not the happiest expression of gratitude, the maxims of the wise, which we have been taught to respect, for the regulation of social manners, have no solid foundation. In them we are instructed not to trust appearances. They report, that there is such a mixture of good and bad, of falsehood and truth in almost every one with whom we converse, and in almost all the actions we see, that it is the part of prudence to suspect the soundness of brilliant professions, until proved by deeds, which have the stamp of utility.

An enemy of metaphysics, I hope not to be suspected of being pupil to either Edwards or Godwin ; yet I venture to pronounce, that the most just is, commonly, the most grateful man. There are certain propensities of our nature which, though not wholly of the sensitive kind, seem nevertheless to have been given rather for the preservation, than the improvement of the species. The man, who can hardly distinguish between the calls of hunger and the operations of intellect, has nearly the same strength of parental affec-

tion, as his enlightened and philosophick neighbour ; and publicans and sinners, as well as gentlemen and christians, have their favourites whom they love, and their dependents whom they oblige.

Pirates and thieves, too oft with courage
grac'd,

Show us how ill that virtue may be
plac'd :

'Tis our complexion makes us chaste
or brave,

Justice from reason and from heaven
we have :

All other virtues dwell but in the blood,
That in the soul, and gives the name of
good.

WALL.

My friend Beneficus is such a foe to a prattling sort of gratitude, in vogue with the vulgar, that he sometimes receives favours with a surly countenance ; but he always takes care that their authors, their relatives, or the world shall be duly recompensed. I have known him benefitted by a neighbour, whom, instead of thanking, he gently reprov'd for a blemish in his manners, or a fault in his conduct. In the view of superficial examiners and transient acquaintances Beneficus, indeed, hazards his reputation for benevolent dispositions ; but, although he is commonly called grave and taciturn, and is willing to be thought so, yet the consciousness of continually exercising his mind for the comfort of his friends and the good of the commonwealth, insures him present happiness and a future reward.

Let him, therefore, who is emulous of understanding and performing the duty of gratitude, in its full extent, learn to be beneficent. Let him light the candle of his neighbour, and the lustre of his own will be increased.

*Homo qui erranti comiter monstrat viam,
Quasi lumen de suo lumine accendat,
facit,
Nihilominus ipsi luceat, cum illi accenderit.*

The spirit of this advice is applicable to all, who may take the trouble of reading the Remarker. None of us, perhaps, is so poor and friendless, as not to have experienced, in seasons of weakness, misfortune, or pain, the sympathy and aid of godlike parents, skilful physicians, and generous benefactors. What is the remuneration, which Providence demands of us for these offices of love ? It says to us, ' Arise, and minister to those members of the community, who are sick and have none to heal them ; who are oppressed, and have none to plead their cause ; who are in darkness, and have none to enlighten them ; who are objects of compassion, and yet have no compassion on themselves.' In our commercial intercourse, in our festive scenes, in our literary associations, on the floor of debate, at the altar, by the fire-side, how numerous our opportunities for contributing to the integrity of individuals, the riches of our country, and the stability of its freedom ! From a sense of gratitude to the Author of society, and to the instruments and imitators of his beneficence, who are daily blessing us, let us learn to value justly, and to use discreetly, the rights and pleasures of social life. So shall they increase in number and in worth, until we shall be fitted for the intercourse and joys of a more perfect condition.

March 21, 1807.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE TO HIS FRIENDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

LETTER THIRD.

Rome, February 1st, 1805.

DEAR SIR,

THE day before I left Naples the keeper of the Museum at Portici arrived, and gave me an opportunity of seeing that very interesting and valuable collection of antiquities. Here are to be seen the objects of curiosity, discovered in Herculaneum and in Pompeia. The inspection of these articles gives us more real light, respecting the state both of the fine and useful arts in Italy near the time of the christian æra, than can be acquired by the most diligent study of all the ancient books, which have escaped the ravages of time and ignorance. It would be an endless task to describe all or even the greater part of these interesting objects; I shall therefore make a few remarks upon such things only, as particularly drew my attention.

Under the corridor of the Museum are two fine equestrian statues, executed in marble. They are said to represent the two Balbus's, the father and son, and are inferiour to no statues of the same nature, except the celebrated one of Marcus Aurelius. They are the more valuable, as no other equestrian statues in marble have ever been discovered. They were found near two pedestals in front of the theatre of Herculaneum, and no doubt served as ornaments to that magnificent edifice. One

circumstance is truly astonishing: they were dug out of a solid mass of lava, much harder than marble, and yet escaped uninjured. A great variety of other statues and busts, both in marble and bronze, were also found in this city; but there are none, which particularly deserve attention, or at least none, which are superiour to the statues found in other parts of Italy.

One of the most interesting classes of objects, which the discovery of this ancient city has afforded us, and of which we could have formed no opinion without this fortunate discovery, are the paintings upon the walls of their houses, and which with infinite labour and expense have been cut out and transported to Portici, where they are secured under glass cases. They would undoubtedly have appeared to more advantage, if they could have been suffered to remain in the places in which they were found, and where two thousand years of uninterrupted quiet seemed to give them at least a prescriptive and possessory title. But it was feared, and perhaps with propriety, that although they had been perfectly preserved so long as the external air was wholly excluded, yet that they would soon fade and perish, when exposed to its effects.

The inferences drawn from them by connoisseurs and antiquaries, with regard to the degree of per-

fection, which the ancients had attained in the art of painting, have, you know, been very various. Some have contended, that they prove the ancients to have been almost wholly ignorant of perspective, and extremely inferior to the moderns in their knowledge and use of colours. Others, among whom you will find Dr. Moore, allege, that such inferences are extremely unfair, as much so, as it would be to take the specimens of *house or sign painting* among us, as fair examples of our progress in the art. They say further, that we ought rather to conclude, that if the inferior painters, who were employed only in painting in fresco for the ornament of their houses, had made such high attainments, Appelles and Zeuxis must have exceeded any of our boasted artists : and they have added, that, as we admit the superiority of the ancients in statuary and architecture, it is absurd to suppose, that they had made so little progress in their sister art. Permit me to add to these arguments, that both Herculaneum and Pompeia were very inferior cities, in point both of wealth and population, and we ought not to expect to find in them the works of the first Roman and Grecian artists.

It has been often asserted, that the ancients had little or *no* knowledge of the principles of perspective. From my own observation, I am enabled to contradict the universality of this proposition ; but it must be admitted, that it is the point in which they appear to fail most. In the "dessein" and drapery, as well as in giving durability to their colours, they are allowed by all parties to excel. A celebrated French writer makes some observations on this subject, which I think will be interesting

to you. He says, 'that all the paintings of Herculaneum prove, that the authors of them were not great painters, that they were ignorant of the natural effect of vision, and were not sufficiently acquainted with the rules of *perspective*. We know, however, that these rules were known to the ancients. Vituvius, in the preface to his VIIth book, says positively, that Democritus and Anaxagoras had treated of perspective in their account of the scenery of the Greeks.' On the whole he remarks, that these ancient paintings have an easy, bold, and free style ; that the manner is light, very much after the fashion of our modern theatrical decorations, and that every thing indicates great practice in the artists, and an education in a good school.

I shall bring home two or three specimens, by which you may be able to judge how far these opinions are correct.

The Museum contains a vast number and variety of the articles of furniture, and moveables, in use among the Romans. There is one room, which is fitted up as it is presumed a Roman kitchen would have been, and all the culinary and other utensils of domestic use are naturally arranged in it. It is, I can assure you, a very curious and interesting display. The earthen and glass vessels are in a perfect state of preservation, those of copper considerably so, while those of iron are very much impaired. The ancient Romans made use of baked earthen vessels for almost every culinary and household purpose. The forms of them are so similar to those of the moderns, that you can entertain no doubt as to the uses to which they were applied. The quality and colour of the earthen

ware are almost the same as those of our common ware, manufactured at Charlestown. There are no specimens of porcelain, and as these would have more easily resisted the effects of time, I think there is good reason to conclude, that the ancients were ignorant of the art of making this article. The most perfect earthen vessels of the ancients are the celebrated *Etruscan* vases, of which vast numbers have been found in *Herculaneum*, and the forms and drawings of which are much admired by antiquaries. Their form is generally that of an urn, though infinitely varied; they have commonly two handles, opposite to each other, and are externally ornamented with figures of men or animals, executed with taste. The outer surface, though hard, has not that glazed surface, which so much disfigures our earthen vessels. They are not painted in colours. The ground is of a dark brown, approaching black, and the figures are of a lighter brown, and appear as if the colour had been produced simply by covering the figures, during the operation of baking them.

The copper kettles, saucepans, and kitchen utensils, have undergone in modern times but little improvement, or indeed alteration. The iron tools of husbandry or for different arts and manufactures are very little changed, at least among the descendants of the Romans in Italy.

You see in this collection hoes, spades, shovels, hatchets, pruning-knives, &c. the forms of which so exactly resemble those in present use, that you can hardly realize that they were handled by men who lived before the Christian æra. It is not indeed strange, that the same wants should lead to the

same discoveries and the same means of supplying them; but our philosophers have taught us, that man is a very improving being, and that he is advancing fast to a state of perfection: we are therefore surprised to find, that in many things, which contribute to his luxury, comfort, or even existence, no improvements have been made for so many ages.

There are other things in the Museum, which are more *curious*, than useful, as they give us no information relative to the state of the arts. You see grain, pease, beans, and dough prepared for baking, which were so thoroughly carbonized, that they have preserved their form and appearance most perfectly. To those, who are acquainted with the imperishable nature of carbonized bodies, these facts will not be surprising. It is to this same principle, that we are indebted for the conservation of the manuscripts, of which I shall give you some account in the close of the present letter.

I noticed the iron weights, used by the Romans, which are precisely like those used by our merchants. They are of an oblong shape, with an handle in the top, having the amount of each weight cut or stamped upon them in very legible characters. There was formerly in this Museum an immense variety of gold, silver, and copper coins and medals, esteemed very useful in aid of history and chronology; but a dread of the rapacity of the French, who always exhibit a strong predilection for antiquities (especially those under the form of the *precious metals*) has induced their very good friend and ally, the king of the Two Sicilies, to remove them to Palermo. There are still, however, many copper, and some gold

and silver coins, which give a very good idea of the progress of the Romans in the art of coining from their earliest to their latest history. I was exceedingly impressed with the gradual improvement and final deterioration of these coins and medals. They kept pace so exactly with the other arts, and with the changes of the manners and character of the Romans, that they appeared to me an epitome of the Roman history. During the consular government the coins and medals were simple, rude, and massy, but strong and useful. They correspond to the unpolished vigour of the Roman character in that period of their history. In the Augustan age they began to assume a more finished and elegant appearance, and they continued to improve, till, in the reigns of Vespasian and Titus, they appear to have attained their highest degree of perfection.— From that time they began to decline, till, in the age of Constantine, they bore the evident marks of decayed and depraved taste; and from this latter period, like all the other productions of art, they became degraded, and sunk into a style of barbarity and rudeness, correspondent to the corrupt and savage state of manners, which prevailed during the lower empire.

Among the many interesting objects, which the discovery of these long-hidden cities has brought to light, there are none more curious, and I *still hope*, that none will prove more useful to the cause of literature, than the ancient manuscripts.

The workmen employed in excavating one of the ancient palaces in Herculaneum, about seventy years since, discovered these manuscripts in one of the apartments. They were at first supposed to be

sticks of wood burnt to charcoal, which they exactly resemble. But their number, and the similarity of their appearance, induced a more accurate examination. At first no means of getting at their contents were employed, but splitting them with a knife. This, while it discovered their value, rendered them totally useless, and incapable of being examined. A monk, however, soon discovered and brought into practice a method of unrolling them; but so tedious was the process, and so sluggish and unenterprising were the Neapolitans, that, in a period of seventy years, they had unrolled and decyphered but about twenty manuscripts out of sixteen hundred.

In consequence of the political and intimate connection, which has of late existed between the courts of Naples and London, the Prince of Wales requested and received permission to send his chaplain, the Reverend Mr. Hayter, to assist in the process of decyphering and publishing these manuscripts. Since his arrival, within two years they have completed one hundred of them. I have had the pleasure to see this gentleman frequently, and he unites to a deep and thorough knowledge of the dead languages, of which he is an enthusiastick admirer, the most friendly, open, and agreeable manners. I met him at the Museum, and he was so obliging, as to explain to me the whole process of unrolling and decyphering these long-lost works.

The persons who are employed in unrolling them, and those also who copy them, are wholly ignorant even of the characters, in which they are written. They are selected merely for their accuracy and care, and, in the operation, proceed like machines.

Each person, employed in unrolling, is furnished with a moveable cylinder, which revolves on its own axis. The artist takes one of the rolls of the burnt papyrus (which are usually about one foot in width, and of a length varying according to the size of the treatise or work copied upon them), and having found the end of the papyrus, he attaches to it by glue a great number of silk threads. These threads are then passed round the cylinder, and, by turning the cylinder gently, the leaf of the papyrus is gradually raised from the scroll. But as the papyrus is extremely slender, and incapable of sustaining its own weight, it is fortified by gold-beaters' skin, which is attached to it by some glutinous fluid. When fifteen or twenty lines are thus raised, they are separated from the roll, and a workman, totally ignorant of the language, copies every letter of it. These letters, held in such a manner as that the light strikes upon them obliquely, are perfectly legible, as much so as the letters on burnt papers, which we have often seen. I observed them, and can assure you, that the process is perfect, accompanied by no uncertainty whatsoever. The Rev. Mr. Hayter constantly superintends the copyists. After the copy is finished, it is precisely engraved, and an exact fac-simile is struck off with all the imperfections and defects of the original. These fac-similes are preserved, and will be published page for page with the original work, that literary men may be enabled to judge how far Mr. Hayter and the other collaters have acted with judgment and fidelity.

When I speak of *defects*, you will understand such *only* as must, and do constantly arise from the

weakness of the papyrus; for in the original manuscripts there are no imperfections. They are written with wonderful accuracy, and indeed beauty. The letters are all *measured*, and are equi-distant, and all the lines contain the same number of letters, so that this regularity very much assists the collaters in supplying any defects.

One circumstance is very fortunate, and that is, the practice of the ancients to give the title-page and the name of the author at the *end* of the work: for, as the end is always at the centre of the roll, it is, in almost every instance, preserved; whereas much the greater part of the manuscripts have lost some of the exterior folds, and, if the name had been written on them, we might never have been able to ascertain who were the authors. This practice of placing the title-page and author's name at the end of the work was of long duration, and continued some time after the art of printing was introduced. I have met with several works, printed in that manner.

None of the missing works of the ancient historians have yet been discovered. In general the treatises, which have been unrolled, have been the works of authors, whose names are unknown to us, and probably therefore of no great value. There have been however found some works of Philodemus, a Grecian of some reputation, and one work of Phædrus. I found Mr. Hayter to-day in raptures at the discovery of a perfect work of Philodemus. It was a moral treatise; the subject, "Death."

I applied for a fac-simile of one of these treatises, or at least a part of one of them, for the college at Cambridge; but it was inadmissible. There are no people so jealous of their fame, as these lite-

rary gentlemen : they choose to have the honour of handing these works to the publick, without any partition.

I met with a very curious monumental inscription, under a corridor in the Vatican. It is upon a block of stone, resembling in its form an altar, and which was undoubtedly dug up in its present form. How long it had been interred, I know not ; but I wish some of our literary gentlemen would explain, how it found its

way to Latium, and, if a forgery, what could be the motives for it.

Inscription.

PARIDI ALESSANDRO
PRIAMI R. G. FIL. TROJANI.

Mr. Hayter remarked, that if it had been an original inscription in the time of Paris, it would have been in the Grecian or in the Phœnician character. He conjectured, that it was a forgery of the 14th century, of which he says many exist. Yours, &c.

BIOGRAPHY.

For the Anthology.

SKETCH OF THE CHARACTER OF PROFESSOR DALZELL.

DIED, at Edinburgh, in December last, ANDREW DALZELL, A. M. F. R. S. Edin. professor of the Greek language in the university of Edinburgh, keeper of the university library, principal clerk to the General Assembly of the church of Scotland, one of the secretaries of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, &c. Mr. Dalzell was, certainly, one of the most amiable men and the most eminent classical scholars, that have ever adorned a Scottish university. He was born about the year 1750, at a farm-house in the parish of Ratho, a few miles west from Edinburgh. His father was a respectable and industrious husbandman. He enjoyed, at an early age, the benefits of instruction in the first principles of classical knowledge, at the publick school of his native parish. He went, thence, to the schools and the university of Edinburgh. The gentleness and purity of his manners, the discretion and propriety of his conduct, his enthusiasm for sound and elegant literature, and his extraordinary profi-

ciency in it, recommended him to the particular notice of the late Earl of Lauderdale, when that nobleman was looking out for a tutor to his eldest son, the negotiator who has so recently foiled the artifices of Talleyrand, Clarke, and Champagny, at Paris. He superintended the private studies and amusements of his noble pupil ; assisted his exercises in the university ; was with him in hearing the lectures of Millar, the famous juridical professor, of Glasgow ; and afterwards accompanied him to Paris. Upon his return from the continent, he was, at the recommendation of the late Earl of Lauderdale, appointed to succeed Mr. Hunter in the professorship of the Greek language at Edinburgh. From this hour, began his career of great and illustrious publick usefulness. Classical learning had been on the decline at Edinburgh, from the time when the publick lectures ceased to be read in the Latin language, and when French literature, and composition in English came to be much in

vogue. Even while the Foulis's were publishing their famous editions of the Greek Classics at Glasgow, and while Moore, one of the most ingenious philologists, and the most profound and accurate Greek scholar, of the age, was teaching in the university of that city : Grecian learning was very little regarded at Edinburgh. The students in Divinity were content if they learned Greek enough to read the Greek Testament ; candidates for the higher honours in Medicine, sought just as much of this language, as should enable them to spell out the Aphorisms of Hippocrates : none else cared for Greek. Mr. Dalzell, from the moment of his appointment, thought only, how to communicate that passion which he himself felt, for the richest and most polished language of antiquity. He adopted the use of Moore's Grammar, the shortest, the most accurate, and the most easily intelligible that had been published. To supply the deficiency of its latter part, he dictated lessons, short, perspicuous, elegant, as the Rules of Moore. His supplementary Syntax of the prepositions, and other parts of speech, was admirable. He explained the passages of Herodotus, of Xenophon, of Thucydides, of Homer, of which the sentiments and imagery were the most adapted to win upon young minds, with a clearness of intelligence, and with a sweet and ardent, yet modest enthusiasm, which it was impossible to resist. Of a frame of mind remarkably congenial with that of Plato, he took delight to select the beauties of that philosopher's Dialogues, for the use of his pupils. He instructed them in the clearest and most lively parts of the Critical and Ethical Tracts of Aristotle. The tragedies of Sophocles and Euripides

furnished scenes, of which the interest particularly assisted his endeavours in favour of Grecian learning. From the Lyrick and Pastoral Poets, from Æsop, Ælian, Theophrastus, Lucian, from the Epigrammatists, and especially from Demosthenes and the other orators, he culled whatever was the most intelligible and attractive to young minds, with a diligence, and a fond solicitude almost without example. These selections formed the course of readings, in which it was his desire to engage and detain his students for at least four or five sessions. At first, he only indicated what books he wished the students to provide themselves with, for the readings in their respective classes. But, the variety and the expense were too great : and his other endeavours would have been defeated, if his zeal for the revival of Greek learning, his tender interest in the instruction of his pupils, and the conscience he put in the discharge of his duty, had not excited him to compile and print, at a considerable expense, and with extraordinary pains and labour, a series of Collections out of the Greek authors, including all those passages which he wished to explain in teaching the language. These were printed in several volumes, under the titles of *Collectanea Minora* and *Collectanea Majora*. He added in each volume, short notes in Latin, explanatory of the difficult places. The Greek Texts were printed with singular accuracy. The Notes are admirable for brevity, perspicuity, and judgment. His Latinity, in the Notes, and in short Prefaces to the several parts of the Collection, is the most remarkable for delicate propriety and genuine power of classical expression, perhaps of any thing that has been, for many

years, written, in Great-Britain, in a learned language. He, at the same time, composed and read to the students, a series of lectures on the language and antiquities, the philosophy and the history, the literature, the eloquence, the poetry, and the fine arts of the Greeks. Those lectures were the result of the unremitting study of the Grecian authors themselves ; of a diligent comparison of those originals with every collateral illustration which was to be found ; of intimate acquaintance with the best modern writers in history, philosophy, poetry, and criticism. The composition was unaffectedly elegant. The train of the lectures was beautifully consecutive and systematick. Mr. Dalzell was careful to read them with a slow, distinct, emphatick, and yet easy elocution, the most convenient to the ear and the understanding. There was a suavity in his voice and manner, than which nothing could well be more attractive. His enthusiasm for every excellence appertaining to the Greeks, was, from time to time, breaking-out in emotions affecting his voice and manner. And it was attempted with an ingenious modesty ; sometimes timid, as if he had been in the presence of the most distinguished judges ; and certainly, the most amiable, in the demeanour of a professor before his pupils. His success has been, by these means, almost complete. He communicated among the youth at that university, a large portion of his own enthusiasm for Grecian learning. He persuaded many of them to study Greek for twice or thrice the length of time, which it was before usual to devote to that language. It became a fashion among most of the students in the

university, whatever their ultimate objects of pursuit, to resort, with eagerness, to hear his lectures. He accomplished a sort of restoration of classical, and even of elegant literature in general at Edinburgh. He gave, within his own province, a celebrity to the university which was the means of drawing many strangers from England and other parts, to pursue their studies in it. He contributed to fill the professions of the church, of the law, and of medicine throughout Scotland, with men who, after they left the university, had but to continue an easy attention to Grecian learning, amid their necessary relaxations from professional duties, in order to attain to the most consummate skill in it. And yet, his fondness for his favourite literature was not satisfied. He has frequently complained to the writer of this article ; that the passion which he inspired for the study of Greek, proved, usually, but transient and fugitive. Many of his favourite pupils, when he happened again to meet them, after they had gone but perhaps two or three years from college, would severely disappoint his hopes by appearing to have entirely neglected, classical learning from the moment they left the university. With young clergymen in particular, he could not help being particularly offended, to find, that, from the time of their obtaining livings, they generally discontinued all regular study, not only of Greek, but even of every branch of philology and science. Many of the students at his classes were very young. Just emancipated from the school and the rod ; and certain, that, at college, they were not to be beaten ; under any professor but himself, such boys were, in the hours of instruc-

tion, too often inattentive, tumultuous, full of "quips and cranks," and unseasonable glee, more disposed to make merry with the teacher's solicitude for their improvement, than to profit by it. But the mingled dignity and gentleness of his manner had power to charm the giddiest and most forward boy to his book and to his seat. There was a witchery in his address which could prevail alike over sloth and over levity. Those who but a moment before, and in a different class-room, were noisy, restless, negligent, wantonly troublesome, no sooner came into Mr. Dalzell's presence, than they were, for the hour, transformed, as by magick, into the most modest and quiet young gentlemen, and the most attentive students one could desire to see. He treated them with a gracious politeness and respect which, in a manner, compelled them to respect both him and themselves. He was careful to make a spirit of piety and virtue pervade the whole course of his instructions. It was gentle, insinuating, and pleasing. It breathed itself into young minds without harassing or disgusting them. His concluding lecture every session was, in particular, a favourite with the students. To hear it many would defer, even for several weeks, their departure for the country. It reviewed the studies of the session; exhorted to ardent diligence during the vacation; pointed out the books the fittest to be then read; indicated the proper exercises in composition; dwelt affectingly upon the charms of classical literature, and of virtue; and, in a strain of the finest Christian and Platonick enthusiasm, taught the heart to elevate itself, through the survey of the works of nature, up

to nature's God. On this occasion, the Professor and his pupils never parted but in tears. Such was his conduct as a Professor for a period of, I think, nearly thirty years. His pupils regarded him with the affection due to a parent, and usually met from him the beneficence of a father's love. Hundreds have been introduced by him into situations as tutors, and into other honourable connexions, which proved the means of their subsequent advantageous and useful establishment in the world. His advice was confided in by parents, in respect to their children's education, more than (I believe) that of any other man in any university, or other seminary, in the three kingdoms. Upon the institution of the royal society of Edinburgh, he was persuaded to undertake the functions of secretary to its literary class. At the death of the learned professor of oriental languages, Dr. James Robertson, Mr. Dalzell was chosen to succeed him as keeper of the publick library of the university. With an exception in favour of a layman, which was, I believe, without example, he was chosen to succeed Dr. John Drysdale in the highly respectable appointment of principal clerk to the general assembly of the church of Scotland. He discharged the functions of all these offices with a zeal, a fidelity, and a masterly ability which gave universal satisfaction, and have never, indeed, been exceeded in any one of them. He was, as may well be imagined, the pride and delight of the private society in which he chiefly lived. Among his particular friends were, the late Dr. Gilbert Stuart, Dr. Russel, known as the judicious compiler of the History of Modern Europe; Mr. Liston, who

has so long and with such distinction served his country in a diplomatic capacity ; Mr. Porter, an eminent Russian merchant ; the late Dr. William Robertson, the historian ; the late venerable Lord Monboddo, well known as an amiable enthusiast in Grecian literature ; Mr. Dugald Stuart, that most learned, ingenuous, and modest of the members of the Scottish universities ; Mr. Professor Christison, and many others, the most eminent for virtue, rank, and talents. Amidst so many publick duties, Mr. Dalzell's application to private studies was indefatigable. The composition and continual improvement of his lectures, with the compilation of his *Collectanea* or *Avesarota* cost him prodigious pains and labour. His correspondence with Heyne and other men of learning abroad, encroached a good deal upon his hours of leisure. He has enriched the volumes of the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh with a variety of interesting communications in biography or on subjects of erudition. He was the editor of the posthumous Sermons of his father-in-law, the learned and judicious Dr. John Drysdale. He gave a value to Cævalier's Description of the Plain of Troy, by translating and illustrating it. His application was, indeed, far too intense : but so very much was his heart in his studies and his official duties, that no tender suggestions of his friends, no counsels of his physi-

cians, could divert him from them. He was in stature among the tallest of the middle size ; his complexion was fair ; his aspect mild, sweet, and unavoidably interesting ; there was peculiar power of ingenuous expression in the modest, almost timid, serenity of his blue eye ; his features were plump and full, but without heaviness or grossness ; his address, in accosting a stranger, or in the general course of conversation, was singularly graceful, captivating, and yet unpretending. He took little exercise, but in occasional walks in the King's Park, which was the rural scene the most easily accessible from his residence in the college. An attack of propriety, a golden moderation, seemed to pervade all his habits in common life. He was eminently temperate, yet hospitable and convivial. In the tenderest connexion of domestick life he was truly fortunate, having married the eldest daughter of the Rev. Dr. John Drysdale, a lady whose temper, taste, good sense, accomplishments, and turn of manners, were entirely in unison with his own. She survives, with the children of their marriage, to mourn his premature loss.

Ergo Quintilium perpetuus sopor
Urget ! cui pudor, et justitiz soror,
Incorrupta fides, nudaque veritas,
Quando ullum invenient parem ?
Multis ille quidem flebilis occidit
Nulli flebilior quam mihi—

London, Jan. 1807.

For the *Anthology*.

PROFESSOR LUZAC.

[The following letter, from a gentleman of high respectability, residing in Holland, was addressed to the late President of the United States. It contains the relation of an event of the most afflictive nature to the friends of humanity, of freedom, and of virtue. To the people of New-England, who recollect with reverence and affection the pilgrimage of their parents, the city of Leyden was a spot, peculiarly interesting; and to all those, who know any thing of the American Revolution, and feel any attachment to its principles, the name and character of JOHN LUZAC will ever be dear and venerable. He descended from one of those virtuous and persecuted families, which, in the reign of Louis the 14th, took refuge in Holland from the violence of that religious fanaticism, which will forever disgrace the annals of that prince. Educated to the profession of the law, and highly distinguished in its practice at an early period of his life, he had for many years relinquished these forensick pursuits to discharge the duties of Professor of the Greek Language and History at the University of Leyden. He had also been the principal editor of the Leyden Gazette, a paper equally celebrated for the elegance of its composition, for the accuracy of its narratives, and for the comprehension, penetration, boldness, and correctness of its political views. In the following letter the voice of ardent and sorrowing friendship speaks the language of strict and unexaggerated truth. There are men of louder fame, and more extensive influence yet remaining; but the civilized world cannot produce a man, uniting that assemblage of qualities, necessary to form a profound classical scholar, an accomplished statesman, and a virtuous and honourable man, in more perfect harmony, than was exhibited in the character of JOHN LUZAC.]

JOHN ADAMS, ESQ.

SIR,

INTIMATELY connected in a disinterested friendship of many years with Mr. JOHN LUZAC, Professor at Leyden, who often confided to me the marks of esteem he received from you, his respected friend, as well as of the immortal Washington, I now take the mournful task to announce to you his death, in a dreadful manner, by the explosion of a barge with gunpowder, that laid, contrary to the laws, in the centre of the city of Leyden, ... the two-thirds and best part of which is ruined by the force of it, which is to be conceived by the quantity, being thirty thousand weight. His house is dashed to pieces; his children were saved

before it fell down. His absence from thence, of about five minutes, makes it almost certain, that he was, at the fatal time, at the place where the barge laid. Thousands perished with him, and the town is a heap of rubbish. The churches and a considerable number of houses threaten to fall, and are taking down to prevent more mischief. This catastrophe took place on the 12th instant, at four o'clock in the afternoon. Not fifty houses are left, without being damaged.

Mr. Luzac, great by his profound learning, by his unrelenting assiduity and labour, and by his incorruptible honesty, was reckoned to be the greatest, deepest, and most virtuous politician in

Europe. Neglected by the intriguing herd, they did him all the evil they dared ; they feared his piercing eye, and wounded him in the dark. He disdained and withstood them on all points. His enemies were those of his unhappy country, whose fall he tried to prevent ; but his voice was stifled, his principles calumniated, the spirit of party, of ambition, of self-interest, and intrigue prevailed, and his country was ruined. Even those, whom he had instructed and fed, became his oppressors. The more he was ill-treated and persecuted, the greater he became in the eyes of those, that saw him act ;—that were sensible of his virtue, of his wisdom, of his merit ;—the greater he became in the eyes of the Almighty God, whom he always fervently served, and who, judging him to have fulfilled the hard task he had given him, took him home in a moment...to everlasting felicity !

He left to his friends three sons ; the eldest, of about eighteen years of age, bred under the

parental eye in the school of wisdom and learning, promises to become the successor of his great father's merits. The second of 14, and the youngest of 10 years, promise both also well. They entered early in the school of adversity, having lost a few months ago their tender and beloved mother by an apoplexy, very suddenly and very unexpectedly. He left them, with his great example, a moderate fortune, and the benevolence of his friends and admirers, deeply wounded by his loss.

Full of respect to you,

I remain your most

Obedt. servant,

Jan. 17th, 1807.

P.S. I inclose this to my friends, Messrs. James & Thomas H. Perkins of Boston, desiring them to forward it to you, and after they calculate it to be in your hands, to have it placed in one of the best newspapers ; as America is yet the country where such a man can be duly appreciated.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 25.

Sylva gerit, frondes.

OVID.

ARMSTRONG.

POETRY, at no time, has possessed more admirers, than in the present age. But it may be asked, is our taste, in this charming art, correct ? Do we judge of a poem, as Aristotle, Quintilian, and Horace would have judged of it ? What would they have said of the extravagant encomiums passed on the vulgar emptiness of a *Bloomfield*, on the crude conceptions and sleep-inspiring versification of a *Southey*, on the unintelligible fus-

tion of a *Della Crusca*, and on the numberless poetical 'Gorgons, and Hydras, and Chimeras dire,' which the 'monster-breeding' breasts of our modern bards have produced ?

Modern poems are a species of romance in metre ; and the sentimental trash of a Circulating Library, turned into verse, would possess equal merit, and excite equal admiration.

It is not to be wondered at, since the publick taste is thus perverted, that poems of sterling merit,

which bear the stamp of classical elegance and correctness, should be left to moulder on our shelves. Our sickly appetite is too much cloyed with sweetmeats to relish substantial food. Hence our standard authors are no longer read by the profound criticks of the day ; and the whimsical novelties of lyrical ballad-mongers and trifling sometteers are preferred to the majesty of Milton, the vigour of Dryden, and the brilliant sense and correct harmony of Pope.

Armstrong is among those bards, whom Johnson, from caprice, or prejudice, or forgetfulness, has excluded from his list of English poets. And yet I will venture to affirm, that *The Art of preserving Health* is inferior to no didactick poem in any language, with the sole exception of the *Georgics*, the most perfect production of the most finished of poets, to which it bears a very striking resemblance.

Virgil divides his poem into four books, which treat respectively of *ploughing, planting, cattle, and bees*. On each of these subjects he selects the best precepts, and intersperses the whole with beautiful descriptions and interesting episodes, adorned with the most polished and harmonious versification.

Armstrong, in like manner, divides his poem into the same number of books, which treat respectively of four circumstances, on which health greatly depends ; viz. *air, diet, exercise, and the passions*. The whole poem is animated with poetical description, and written in a style truly chaste, terse, and classical. The fever and ague one would scarcely think capable of poetical embellishment. But observe what the hand of a master can effect !

‘ Far on a rustick throne of dewy turf,
With baneful fogs her aching temples
bound,

Quartana there presides ; a meagre
fiend,

Begot by Eurys, when his brutal force
Compress’d the slothful Naiad of the
fens.

From such a mixture sprung, this fitful
pest

With feverish blasts subdues the
sick’ning land.

Cold tremors come, with mighty love
of rest,

Convulsive yawnings, lassitude, and
pains

That sting the burthen’d brows, fatigue
the loins,

And rack the joints, and every torpid
limb.

Then parching heat succeeds, till cop-
picious sweats

O’erflow ; a short relief from former ills.
Beneath repeated shocks the wretches
pine ;

The vigour sinks, the habit melts away ;
The cheartful, pure, and animat’d bloom

Dies from the face with squalid atrophy
Devour’d, in sallow melancholy clad.

And oft the Sorceress, in her sated
wrath

Reigns them to the furies of her train,
The bloated Hydrops, and the yellow

fiend,
Ting’d with her own accumulated gall.’

Every one, who has been so unfortunate as to have experienced this complaint, will bear witness to the truth and spirit of the description.

The description of the sweating sickness I shall quote at large, which has equally the truth of history and the embellishments of poetry to recommend it.

‘ Ere yet the fell Plantagenets had spent
Their ancient rage at Bosworth’s pur-
ple field ;

While, for which tyrant England should
receive,

Her legions in incestuous murders
mixed,

And daily horrors ; till the fates were
drunk

With kindred blood by kindred hands
profus’d ;

'Another plague of more gigantick arm
'Arose; a monster, never known before,
Rear'd from Cocytus its portentous
head.

This rapid Fury, not like other pests,
Pursued a gradual course, but in a day
Rush'd, as a storm, o'er half th' aston-
ished isle,
And strew'd with sudden carcasses the
land.

First through the shoulders, or what-
ever part
Was seized the first, a fervid vapour
sprung.

With rash combustion thence, the quiv-
ering spark
Shot to the heart, and kindled all within;
And soon the surface caught the spread-
ing fires.

Through all the yielding pores the melt-
ed blood

Gushed out in smoky sweats; but
nought assuaged

The torrid heat within, nor aught reliev'd
The stomach's anguish. With inces-
sant toil,

Desperate of ease, impatient of their
pain,

They toss'd from side to side. In vain
the stream

Ran full and clear, they burn'd and
thirsted still;

The restless arteries with rapid blood
Beat strong and frequent. Thick and
pantingly

The breath was fetched, and with huge
labourings heaved.

At last a heavy pain oppress'd the head,
A wild delirium came; their weeping
friends

Were strangers now, and this no home
of theirs.

Harass'd with toil on toil, the sinking
powers

Lay prostrate and o'erthrown; a pen-
derous sleep

Wrapt all the senses up... they slept
and died.

In some, a gentle horrou crept at first
O'er all the limbs; the sluices of the skin
Withheld their moisture, till by art
provoked

The sweats o'erflowed, but in a clammy
tide;

Now free and copious, now restrained
and slow;

Of tinctures various, as the temperature
Had mix'd the blood; and rank with
fetid steam,

As if the post-up humours by delay
Were grown more fell, more putrid,
and malign.

Here lay their hopes (though little hope
remained)

With full effusion of perpetual sweats
To drive the venom out. And here the
fates

Were kind, that long they lingered not
in pain.

For who survived the sun's diurnal race,
Rose from the dreary gates of hell re-
deemed.

Some the sixth hour oppress'd, and some
the third.

Of many thousands few untainted
'scap'd;

Of those infected, fewer 'scap'd alive;
Of those, who lived, some felt a second
blow;

And, whom the second spar'd, a third
destroyed.

Frantick with fear, they sought by
flight to shun

The fierce contagion. O'er the mourn-
ful land

Th' infected city pour'd her hurrying
swarms:

Rous'd by the flames, that fired her
seats around,

Th' infected country rush'd into the
town.

Some, sad at home, and in the desert
some,

Abjured the fatal commerce of mankind.
In vain—where'er they fled, the fates
pursued.

Others, with hopes more specious,
cross'd the main,

To seek protection in far distant skies;
But none they found. It seem'd, the
general air,

From pole to pole, from Atlas to the East,
Was then at enmity with English blood.

Far, but the race of England, all were
safe

In foreign climes; nor did this Fury
taste

The foreign blood, which England then
contained.

Where should they fly? The circumam-
bient heaven

Involved them still, and every breeze
was bane.

Where find relief? The salutary art
Was mute, and, startled at the new
disease,

In fearful whispers hopeless omens gave.

To heaven, with suppliant rites, they
sent their prayers:

Heaven heard them not. Of every hope
 deprived,
 Fatigued with vain resources, and subdued
 With woes resistless, & enfeebling fear,
 Passive they sunk beneath the weighty
 blow.
 Nothing but lamentable sounds were
 heard,
 Nor aught was seen but ghastly views
 of death.
 Infectious horror ran from face to face,
 And pale despair. 'Twas all the busi-
 ness then
 To tend the sick, and in their turns to die.
 In heaps they fell; and oft one bed, they
 say,
 The sick'ning, dying, and the dead
 contained.'

I hope that the excellence of this passage will apologize for its length; and, indeed, the whole poem is worthy of attention, and cannot fail of affording sincere pleasure to those who possess a classical taste, undebauched by the meretricious ornaments and gaudy trappings of modern poetasters.

GOSSIPING.

THERE is nothing more contemptible, than that gossiping disposition, which delights in hearing and repeating little tales of slander and ill-nature. What is wonderful, is, that persons of any sense should give credence to the ridiculous stories in circulation. For my own part, I make it a standing rule never to believe any report to the disadvantage of a friend or acquaintance, upon the mere assertion of an indifferent person. I have always found, on examination, that the story is either entirely false, or else so disguised and exaggerated, as to be widely distant from the real truth.

Ned Worthy is one of the best fellows in the world. Whenever he enters, there is a smile of satisfaction on every face in the room. As he is in easy circumstances, he

once paid the tax of a wealthy bachelor, in being called on to maintain a child not his own. Ned immediately gained the reputation, particularly among his female friends, of being a man of gallantry. It was no sooner known that Ned was engaged to a fine woman, than the child began to multiply; and the future Mrs. Worthy is actually threatened, on her marriage, to be presented with no less than **TWELVE ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN**. The story of the black crows is no longer a fable.

It was currently reported, and at last confidently affirmed, that, on Thursday last, Will Careless was caught in bed with Mrs. B. The whole Exchange was alive, and every insurance-office electrified with the intelligence. You would have thought, that some important news had arrived from Europe; that Bonaparte had arrived at Petersburg, or that the French had been cut up piece-meal. On inquiry, it was discovered, that Mrs. B. was on that day in the country with her family, and that Will had not yet returned from Philadelphia, whither he had gone some time since on business.

Miss Prudelia Prim, it was said, was actually delivered of coloured twins. It turned out, on investigation, that miss Prudy's lap-dog had brought her two black puppies.

COWPER'S HOMER.

'THE merits of Mr. Cowper (says Gilbert Wakefield, speaking of the translators of Homer) it is much more difficult to estimate, with a benevolent regard at the same time to the sacred feelings of an amiable writer, under a reverence inspired by a man of fine genius, and with justice to the publick, by a religiously scrupulous adherence to sincerity. I

speaking with unwilling emphasis, but unaffected hesitation, when I assert, if my own ears are not absolutely unattuned to the mellifluous cadence of poetick numbers, the structure of Mr. Cowper's verse is harsh, broken, and inharmonious, to a degree inconceivable in a writer of so much original and intrinsic excellence. His fidelity to his author is, however, entitled to unreserved praise, and proclaims the accuracy and intelligence of a critical proficient in his language. The true sense of Homer, and the character of his phraseology, may be seen in Mr. Cowper's version to more advantage, beyond all comparison, than in any other translation whatsoever within the compass of my knowledge. His epithets are frequently combined after the Greek manner, which our language happily admits, with singular dexterity and complete success. His diction is grand, copious, energetick, and diversified, full fraught with every em-

bellishment of poetick phraseology. His turns of expression are, on many occasions, hit off with most ingenious felicity; and there are specimens of native simplicity also in his performance, that place him at least on a level with his author, and vindicate his title, in this respect, to superiority over all his predecessors in this arduous and most painful enterprise. Boswell, in his *Life of Johnson*, has spoken of Mr. Cowper's translation with an unfeeling petulance, with an insolent dogmatism, perfectly congenial to that rash and audacious censor.

Notwithstanding this panegyrick, Boswell's opinion seems to be that of the publick, and the 'insolent dogmatism of an audacious censor' is not inapplicable to Gilbert himself, with all his learning and abilities, which are readily acknowledged to have been great and uncommon. The accuracy of his judgment and the firmness of his taste are points more questionable.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

For the Anthology.

[Hoc jucundum carmen scriptum fuisse dicitur A. D. 1742: et, a Sam. Johnson, in vita, inter optima ingenii facinora poetæ nostri numeratur.

Hujus carminis figuram ab Horatio, car. 35, lib. 1, captam esse, non negatum est; quanquam longe viribus, in opere sequente, Romano noster Anglus antepone- retur.—Multa certe micantia, quæ in Anglicano carmine apparent, in his meis Latinis versibus, sive non reperiuntur, sive dubie coruscant.]

CARMEN
THOMÆ GRAY,
IN
ADVERSITATEM,

LATINIS VERSIBUS REDDITUM.

O, soboles magni Jovis! O, tu ferrea virgo!
Pectora quæ superas hominum, domitasque catena;
Te veniente, boni pravique premuntur, et omnes
Tempora mæsta malo tua et aspera verbera vitant.

Turgentes animis, qui sunt in sede superbo,
 Ob tua, sæpe humiles, adamantina vincula moerent ;
 Abjecti, incassum insolitis rubeique tyranni
 Et curis lugent, fulgent et inaniter ostro.

Cum natam voluit primum demittere ab alto,
 Virtutem in terris, hominum pater, et sibi caram,
 Progeniem tibi sideream tum tradidit ille,
 Præcipiens teneram infantis te educere mentem.
 Per multos sequitur virtus tractibilis annos,
 Doctrinamque tulit duram, aspera, frigida nutrix !
 Tristitiaque graves docuisti noscere vias,
 * Disceret illa malo ut, miserus versata, moveri.

Attonitique, tuos fugiunt vultus metuendos
 Stultitiæque cohors, fastosaque, vanaque turba,
 Clamor, et immanis Risus, cum Gaudio inani.
 Hi fugiunt nobis tempus dant discere justa :
 Ut levis aura abeunt, et disperguntur iis cum
 Hostilisque comes, nimum atque sodalis apertus ;
 Prosperitas ubi sit querunt promissaque portant
 Illi iterum fidei, illa iterum et in amore ferantur.

At gradibus, tibi sunt comites, sanctisque sequuntur
 Vestibus ornata, in primis, Sapientia nigris,
 Atque profundo animo vasta et sublimia versans.
 Proxima nunc illa et, semper taciturna puella,
 Oraque habens mæsta, et terram in sua lumina tendens ;
 Omnibus illa ac apparens blandissima Diva ;
 Justitia austeras dura imponens sibi leges ;
 Illa et sensibilis fundans a pectore guttas.

Tu, proles metuenda Deum, exaudique petentem,
 Leniter exerceque tuum objurgante flagello ;
 Non ut visa, veni, pœnis succincta malorum,
 Horrificans furiis, serpentibus undique compta,
 Verberibusque ferox, et lumina torrida volvens ;
 Nec rapido incessu ardescens, nec voce minaci,
 Horrens comitata altis plangoribus atri,
 Nec Morbo, morienteque Spe, Penuria et arcta.

Et, Deu, sume sibi blanda ora, oculosque benignos,
 Terroresque remitte tuos, et vincla relaxa ;
 Atque tua agmina fer veniens Sapientia tecum,
 Non curas augere meas, lenire sed acres.
 Da mihi naturam eversam inque reducere sedem ;
 Et bene amare meos, ignoscere et instrue mentem.
 Hæc quoque tu concede mihi, mea noscere prava,
 Quo vivunt alii modo, et ipsum hominem esse peractum.

* Hujus versus medulla extrahitur ossibus Virgilio, ut seq.
 " Haud ignara mali, miseris succurrere disco."

L. M. SARGENT.

March, 1807.

For the Anthology.

CASTLE BUILDING. AN ELEGY.

"Sweet pliability of man's temper, which can at once surrender itself to illusions, that cheat expectation and time of their weary moments."

GODDESS of golden dreams, whose magick power
Sheds smiles of joy o'er misery's haggard face,
And lavish strews the visionary flower
To deck life's dreary path with transient grace :

I woo thee, FANCY, from thy fairy cell,
Where, mid the endless woes of human kind,
Wrapt in ideal bliss, thou lov'st to dwell,
And sport in happier regions, unconfined.

Deep sunk, oh Goddess ! in thy pleasing trance,
Oft let me seek some low sequestered vale,
Whilst WISDOM's self shall steal a side-long glance
And smile contempt,—but listen to my tale.

Alas ! how little do thy vot'ries guess
Those rigid truths, which learned fools reverse;
Serve but to prove (oh bane to happiness !)
Our joys delusive, but our woes sincere.

Be 't theirs to search, where clust'ring roses grow,
Touching each sharp thorn-point to prove how keen ;
Be 't mine—to trace their beauties as they blow,
And catch their fragrance, where they blush unseen.

Haply, my path may lie through barren vales,
Where niggard Fortune all her smiles denies—
E'en there shall FANCY scent the ambient gales,
And scatter flow'rets of a thousand dyes.

Nor let the worldling scoff ; be his the task
To form deep schemes, and mourn his hopes betray'd ;
Be 't mine to range unseen, 'tis all I ask,
And frame new worlds beneath the silent shade ;

To bid groves, hills, and limpid streams appear,
The gilded spire, arch'd dome, and fretted vault,
And sweet society be ever near,
Lovz ever fond, and friends without a fault.

I see entranc'd the gay conception rise,
My harvest ripen, and my white flocks thrive ;
And still, as Fancy pours her large supplies,
I taste the godlike happiness to give ;

To check the patient widow's deep-felt sigh,
To shield her infant from the north-blast rude,
To bid the sweetly glittering tear arise,
That swims in the glad eye of gratitude.

To join the artless maid, and honest swain,
 Where fortune rudely bars the way to joy,
 To ease the tender mother's anxious pain,
 And guard with fost'ring hand her darling boy.

To raise up modest merit from the ground,
 And send the unhappy smiling from my door ;
 To spread content and cheerfulness around,
 And banquet on the blessings of the poor.

Delicious dream ! how oft beneath thy power,
 Thus lessening the sad load of other's woe,
 I steal from rigid fate one happy hour,
 Nor feel I want the pity I bestow.

Delicious dream ! how often dost thou give
 A gleam of bliss, which truth would but destroy ;
 Oft dost thou bid my drooping heart revive,
 And catch one cheerful glimpse of transient joy.

And oh ! how precious is that timely friend,
 Who checks affliction in her dread career ;
 Who knows distress—well knows that he may lend
 One hour of life, who stops one rising tear.

Oh ! but for thee, long since the hand of care
 Had mark'd with livid pale my furrow'd cheek :
 Long since the shivering hand of cold despair,
 Had chill'd my breast, and forc'd my heart to break.

For ah ! affliction steals with trackless flight,
 Silent the stroke she gives, tho' not less keen ;
 And bleak misfortune, like an eastern blight,
 Sheds black destruction, tho' it flies unseen.

Oh come then, FANCY, and with lenient hand,
 Dry my moist cheek, and smooth my furrow'd brow ;
 Bear me o'er smiling tracks of fairy land,
 And give me more than Fortune can bestow.

Mix'd are the boons, and chequer'd all with ills,
 Her smile the sunshine of an April morn ;
 The cheerless valley skirts the gilded hills,
 And latept storms on every gale are borne.

Give me the hope that sickens not the heart,
 Give me the wealth that has no wings to fly,
 Give me the pride that honour may impart,
 Thy friendship give me, warm in poverty.

Give me the wish that worldlings may deride,
 The wise may censure, and the proud may hate ;
 Wrapt in thy dreams to lay the world aside,
 And catch a bliss beyond the reach of Fate.

— — — — —
For the Anthology.

GENTLEMEN,

The following "elegant and glowing stanzas" are not from the pen of Mr. Barlow; nor were they recited by Mr. Beckley at the "elegant dinner," given by the Citizens of Washington to Captain Lewis.

See *National Intelligencer*, 16 January, 1807.

ON THE DISCOVERIES OF CAPTAIN LEWIS.(1)

GOOD people, listen to my tale,
'Tis nothing but what true is;
I'll tell you of the mighty deeds
Atchiev'd by Captain Lewis—
How starting from the Atlantick shore
By fair and easy motion,
He journied, *all the way by land*,
Until he met the ocean.

HEROICK, sure, the toil must be
To travel through the woods, sir;
And never meet a foe, yet save
His person and his goods, sir!
What marvels on the way he found
He'll tell you, if inclin'd, sir—
But *I* shall only now disclose
The things he *did not* find, sir.

He never with a Mammoth met,
However you may wonder;
Nor even with a Mammoth's bone,
Above the ground or under—

And, spite of all the pains he took
The animal to track, sir,
He never could o'ertake the hog
With navel on his back, sir.

And from the day his course began,
Till even it was ended,
He never found an Indian tribe
From Welchmen straight descended:
Nor, much as of Philosophers
The fancies it might tickle;
To season his adventures, met
A Mountain, sous'd in pickle.

He never left this nether world—(2)
For still he had his reason—
Nor once the waggon of the sun
Attempted he to seize on.
To bind a *Zone* about the earth
He knew he was not able—
THEY SAY he did—but, ask himself,
He'll tell you 'tis a fable.

Notes.

(1) There are *some* understandings, graduated on such a scale, that it may be necessary to inform them, that our intention is not to depreciate the merits of Captain Lewis's publick services. We think highly of the spirit and judgment, with which he has executed the duty undertaken by him, and we rejoice at the rewards bestowed by congress upon him and his companions. But we think with Mr. John Randolph, that there is a bombast in Politicks, as well as in Poetry; and Mr. Barlow's "elegant and glowing stanzas" have the advantage of combining both.

- (2) "With the same soaring genius, thy Lewis ascends,
"And *seizing the Car of the Sun*,
"O'er the sky-propping hills, and high-waters he bends,
"And gives the proud earth a *new zone*."

Thus sweetly sings the soaring genius of Barlow. He has in this stanza obtained an interesting victory over verse. He has brought *zone* and *sun* to rhyme together; which is more than ever was attempted by his great predecessor in psalmody, Sternhold.

He never dreamt of taming *tides*, (3)
 Like monkeys or like bears, sir—
 A school, for teaching floods to flow,
 Was not among his cares, sir—
 Had rivers ask'd of him their path,
 They had but mov'd his laughter—
 They knew their courses, all, as well
 Before he came as after.

And must we then resign the hope
 These Elements of changing !
 And must we still, alas ! be told
 That after all his ranging,
 The Captain could discover nought
 But Water in the Fountains ?
 Must Forests still be form'd of Trees ?
 Of rugged Rocks the Mountains ?

We never will be so fubb'd off,
 As sure as I'm a sinner !
 Come—let us all subscribe, and ask
 The *HERO* to a dinner—
 And Barlow stanzas shall indite—
 A bard, the tide who tames, sir—
 And if we cannot alter *things*,
 By G—, we'll change thier *names*, sir !

Let old Columbus be once more
 Degraded from his glory ;
 And not a river by his name
 Remember him in story—

For what is *old* Discovery
 Compar'd to that which new is ?
 Strike—strike *Columbia* river out,
 And put in—*river Lewis* !

Let dusky Sally henceforth bear
 The name of *Isabella* ;
 And let the mountain, all of salt,
 Be christen'd *Monticella*—
 The hog with navel on his back
 Tom Pain may be when drunk, sir—
 And *Joël* call the *Prairie-dog*,
 Which once was call'd a *Skunk*, sir.

And when the wilderness shall yield (4)
 To bumpers, bravely brimming,
 A nobler victory than men ;—
 While all our heads are swimming,
 We'll dash the bottle on the wall
 And name (the thing's agreed on)
 Our first-rate-ship *United States*,
 The flying frigate *Fredon*.

True—Tom and Joël now, no more
 Can overturn a nation ;
 And work, by butchery and blood,
 A great regeneration ;—
 Yet, still we can turn inside out
 Old *Nature's* Constitution,
 And bring a *Babel* back of *names*—
 Huzza ! for *REVOLUTION* !

Notes.

- (3) " His long curving course has completed the belt,
 " And tamed the last tide of the West.

" Then hear the loud voice of the nation proclaim,
 " And all ages resound the decree,

" Let our Occident stream bear the young hero's name,
 " Who taught him his path to the sea."

BARLOW'S STANZAS.

Here the young *HERO* is exhibited in the interesting character of schoolmaster to a river ; and the proposition, that the river should take his name by way of payment for his tuition, appears so modest and reasonable, that we should make no objection, were it not that the wages must be deducted from the scanty pit-tance of poor Columbus. He has already been so grossly defrauded by the name of this hemisphere, that we cannot hear with patience a proposal to strip him of that trifling substitute of a river, which had so late and so recently been bestowed upon him.

We invite the attention of the reader to the *rare* modesty of Mr. Barlow himself, who, in committing this *spoliation* upon the fame of Columbus, does not even allow him the chance of an adjudication, . . . but undertakes, by self-created authority, to make proclamation for the whole nation, and to pronounce the decree for all ages !

- (4) " Victory over the wilderness, which is more interesting, than that over men."—*Barlow's Toast at the Dinner.*

THE BOSTON REVIEW

FOR

MARCH, 1807.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quæ commutanda, quæ eximenda, arbitraver. Nam ego dicere vero assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ARTICLE 10.

Plain discourses on the laws and properties of matter ; containing the elements or principles of modern chemistry, with more particular details of those practical parts of the science, most interesting to mankind, and connected with domestick affairs. Addressed to all American promoters of useful knowledge. By Thomas Ewell, M. D. one of the surgeons of the U. S. navy.

"Humanity, sitting at the portal of misery, through the medium of science implores relief, while a tear is dropt for the unfortunate children of men."

1 vol. 8vo. Brisban & Brannan.
New-York. 1806.

CHEMISTRY, as a science, has existed but a few years. Though many philosophers, from the time of Bacon and Boyle, were led by the spirit of experiment and induction to observe the operations of those laws, strictly termed chemical, it was not till the age of Lavoisier, of Black, and of Priestley, that the numerous facts, which they had collected, were generalised and erected into the beautiful fabrick of modern chemistry. The flame, which these philosophers enkindled, is now more widely diffused. Many from necessity, and not a

few from inclination, have devoted their time or their fortunes to the advancement of this science. Men of sagacious minds and of extended views have embodied their own and the discoveries of others into a regular system. They have defined the science of chemistry ; they have elucidated its laws, and marked the boundaries between this and the other branches of physicks, with which it is intimately connected. But however valuable these elementary works may be to those, whose desires terminate in a general view of its principles, the artist is often disappointed in the detail of those processes or operations, which are the effects of chemical laws, and on the knowledge of which depends the success of many useful and æconomical arts. In a system of chemistry every fact, however insulated or unconnected, must be noticed, and every substance, however useless or uninteresting, must be described and its characters defined. When therefore every thing is entitled to the same degree of notice, some important arts must be slightly mentioned, and all but imperfectly described. A work then, which should be devoted to the consideration of the chemical arts, and

should contain accurate descriptions of those minutæ, which, though necessary to be known, are usually omitted in elementary works, would be a valuable gift to society. To supply, in some degree, this deficiency, was the object of Dr. Ewell in composing the work before us. He professes, in the preface, to give a 'general account of the properties of matter, with more particular details of the most useful and interesting parts of the science, in a language, adapted to the comprehension of the most common understandings.' Its object is 'to lessen the difficulties and increase the conveniences of the citizens of the United States, by introducing them to a more intimate acquaintance with chemistry, or the qualities of the substances around them.' He acknowledges his obligations to the various systematick works of Thompson, Murray, and Accum; but, says he, 'it will be found, that I have advanced something new on the subjects of heat, light, electricity, vegetation, manures, and on several other branches of chemistry.' In common, however, with many other authors who have prejudged the publick sentiment, Dr. Ewell has informed us, that an allowance should be made for the errors of the work, by considering, that it was written in the moments of leisure, in the intervals of professional avocations. It is of little consequence, however, to his readers, whether it was composed in broad day, or by the midnight lamp; in the hours appropriated to business, or during the moments usually devoted to relaxation and social enjoyment. A work will be ultimately estimated by its intrinsic merit. It may be, for a while, upheld by the patronage of the friendly, or supported by the clamours

of the interested, but it will eventually sink to its proper level, and rest on its own worth.

The preface is followed by an address to the farmers, artists, and other citizens of our own country, in which are detailed at large the various arts, whose operations depend on the agency of chemical laws, and the extensive application of the principles of this important science to the purposes of life. The account is well written, and is calculated to give his readers a correct idea of the immense variety of operations, which are founded on the doctrines of chemical affinity. But in speaking of the pleasures, which the chemist enjoys in the contemplation of the effects of these laws, our author quits the sober style of science for the language of the visionary. Here, in fact, commences that rage for "something new," by which the subsequent pages of this work are characterised. We could not help smiling at the affected stoicism, with which he utters the following curious sentence, in attempting to describe the last moments of a chemist: 'Instead of trembling,' says he, 'on finding his extremities losing their genial warmth, and growing dark with livid fluids; instead of giving way to shrieks and lamentations, while his perception is falling, his mind may be amused in contemplating the exercise of the laws of his visible body, till it takes a final departure for enjoyment in other scenes.' This, however, is merely the commencement of the climax, which is at length unfolded in the last page of this address, where our author steps forth, arrayed in all the terrors of inspiration, in the following sublime passage: 'Ye free agents! ye guardians of the young! can you allow those under your care to

neglect learning the principles of this all-important science! What then will you say, when arraigned at the bar of justice, before a Creator, an assembled universe, for neglect of duty? Your hoary locks will not cover you! the number of the accused will naught extenuate, and in vain will you deny the charge! The children of successive generations will rise up around you.—In the face of heaven they will bitterly complain of the beauties, to which they were insensible! At this awful denunciation, we confess; we were somewhat startled—

‘Steteruntque comæ et vox faucibus hæsit.’

The substance of the work is comprised in fifteen discourses, in which our author has pursued the subject systematically, and has adopted an arrangement that is well calculated to give a correct view of the objects of this science. He first divides all bodies into confinable and unconfinable. The latter term he applies to the four elements, heat, light, electricity, and galvanism. Under the former are included, first, the æriform or gaseous fluids, and the various liquid bodies, resulting from their union.—2. The simple combustibles and the products, arising from their combination with oxygen.—3. The simple or undecomposed acids.—4. Alkalies.—5. Earths.—6. Metals.—7. Vegetable,—and, 8. Animal chemistry. The whole is concluded with an ‘address’ to his fellow-citizens.

We shall now proceed to examine the work itself. A new and original production on any subject of science, is such a *rara avis* in this hemisphere, that we opened the leaves of this work with a sufficient degree of prepossession in

its favour. Our curiosity, however, was somewhat checked on the perusal of the observations, prefixed to the account of the unconfinable bodies. We are told, in the title-page, that this work professes to discourse on the laws of matter, and hence we are led to expect, that it ranges through the whole circle of physical science. Yet, in the first paragraph, we are presented with a definition, or rather explanation, of the science of chemistry. ‘The object of chemistry,’ says he, ‘being to ascertain the properties, or qualities, or laws of matter, it follows, that every thing around us, commencing with the air, and ending with the earth, are the subjects of chemical research.’ Dr. Ewell surely cannot be ignorant, that by this observation, which in the table of contents is called a definition, he confounds this science with mechanical philosophy and natural history. The distinction, however, between these departments of physical science is very obvious, though the precise boundaries of each may not have been exactly ascertained. Natural philosophy is employed in the investigation of those effects, which result from sensible motion.* The return of a body to the earth, when deprived of the power by which it was elevated, depends on the operation of an unknown law or power, inherent in matter, called, by Sir I. Newton, gravitation; which is simply an expression of an ultimate fact, beyond which the most acute mind is lost in uncertainty. The ratio of the momentum of this body, or in other words, the intensity of the power, is determined on mathematical principles, and the effect is referred to the doctrine

* Henry’s epitome of chemistry. Introduction.

of moving forces. When an elastic substance impinges on another at rest, the latter acquires some principle, by which it is caused to change its place. These actions, though resulting from the operation of certain laws of matter, are obviously not chemical. The construction of achromatick glasses depends on the different degrees of refrangibility of two species of that substance; and the laws, by which they are regulated, make a part of dioptricks. The formation, however, of these substances, the nature of the ingredients, and the theory of their reciprocal action, result from the application of laws, which are strictly chemical. On the other hand, the province of natural history is to describe the qualities of bodies, and, according to their degrees of similitude in external characters, to reduce them to certain classes, and subdivide them into genera and species. But neither the naturalist, nor the mathematician, nor the natural philosopher, has any thing to do with those actions, which, in certain circumstances, result from the contiguity of heterogeneous particles, and are followed by a change of properties and relations. We thus approximate to the true definition of chemistry. But it is not our duty to expose, though it may be to expose, the deficiencies of Dr. Ewell. From this view of the subject, it will appear obvious, that our author has given an erroneous statement of the nature of this science, by confounding it with those, which treat only on the general properties of matter. Having thus, as he supposes, established the definition of chemistry, he devotes a few pages to the consideration of the general laws of matter, in which he briefly notices the attractions of gravity and cohesion, *chemical af-*

finity, and repulsion. The doctrine of affinity is the most important, and the most interesting, in the whole range of chemistry. In fact, to know the affinities of bodies, is to be acquainted with the science; and we have a right to expect, therefore, in a work like this, that the laws, by which they are regulated, should be accurately detailed and clearly arranged. But we look in vain for this generalisation. The account, we think, is confused and imperfect, and by no means calculated to give its readers a correct idea of its importance. Dr. Ewell, however, is an enemy to divisions, and we cannot expect them in a work, whose author declares them 'opposed to the uniform simplicity of nature.' On repulsion he has said little. In fact, he has altogether denied the existence of a repulsive principle among the particles of bodies, and endeavours to support his opinion by this sage observation—'that the cause of the separation of such bodies is a mechanical one, as in most cases will appear evident, and consequently it would be improper to conclude there is a repulsive principle.' p. 50.

Our author then proceeds to describe the nature and principles of those elementary substances, to which has been applied the term unconfined. The first of these is heat. We could not help remarking the want of arrangement, in describing the various relations of caloric. The fears of Dr. Ewell, that his subject would be rendered perplexed, by many subdivisions, have led him into an opposite error; and the account, therefore, of this substance, seems both confused and imperfect.—Chemists have usually divided caloric into two kinds, viz. of communication, and of transmission, or

radiation. Of the latter, however, he has said nothing. In fact, he seems not to have been acquainted with the experiments of Mr. Leslie,* and of Count Rumford,† on the different radiating power of the surfaces of different substances, although on this principle have been founded important improvements in various arts, essential to the comfort of society. On the various conducting powers, of different substances, and the application of this knowledge to the purposes of life, Dr. Ewell has written with accuracy and judgment, although here, as in many other places, we remarked the copious extracts from the chemical work of Mr. Accum.‡ But, while considering the various modes of generating or evolving caloric, we were not a little surprised to find, that the heat, produced by the appulsion of the solar rays on terrestrial bodies, should be considered as the effect of chemical action. We are told,§ that the caloric, generated by bringing the rays of the sun to a focus, by a convex lens, is in consequence of the union of light with the particles of bodies, by which their capacity is destroyed, and their latent heat consequently evolved. In proof of the correctness of his opinion, he affirms, that it requires some time for the rays of caloric to pass through the substance of the glass. It is well known, that caloric is at first retarded in its passage through diaphanous bodies, in consequence of combining with their particles. At least, this is the fact with regard to the radiation of the particles of this substance from culinary fire, though the retardation of solar heat is by no means so obvious.

But let us for a moment suppose, that bodies, placed in the focus of a burning glass, are not acted upon by the calorific solar rays, it may still be asked, in what way can light act by evolving their latent caloric? When metallic, or concrete oily substances are thus exposed, they are soon reduced to a state of fusion, their capacities are increased, and they consequently absorb caloric; yet Dr. Ewell is made to say, that bodies, exposed to the rays of the sun, have their capacities for heat increased, and consequently are made to evolve the caloric, with which they were combined. This is evidently an absurdity; for it is impossible to conceive, that the fluidity, and consequent increase of capacity of a body, could be produced by the evolution of a quantity of caloric, which was just sufficient for it in a solid state. Our author endeavours, in the same way, to account for the fusion and combustion of different substances, by the electric and galvanic fluids, not recollecting that their capacities for heat are probably diminished by the sudden and violent compression of their particles.

In the subsequent pages we find him attacking the theory of latent heat, as described by Dr. Black. He however quotes no authorities, nor has once mentioned the names of Crawford and of Irvine, who are so justly celebrated for their writings on the capacities of bodies. But we shall have sufficient reason to believe, that respect for the opinions of others is not to be ranked among the infirmities of Dr. Ewell. It is quite unnecessary, we presume, to enter on the discussion of the different theories, which have been advanced by several philosophers on the nature of capacity; we shall, therefore, confine ourselves to the examination

* Leslie on heat.

† Nicholson's Journal, 8vo. series.

‡ Accum's Chemistry, vol. 1, p. 88.

§ Page 67.

of those facts or experiments, on which our author has grounded his opinion. On a review of these, we have sufficient reason to believe, that he has not only been unfortunate in his selection, but that they are calculated to establish more strongly the doctrine which he is attempting to overthrow. 'Nitric acid,' says he, 'in a strong heat, is converted into two airs of great bulk, which contain no more heat than the acid did.' This is mere assertion. Dr. Ewell has not pointed out the experiments, by which he is authorised to state this fact with so much confidence; nor indeed can he be in possession of any facts, on which he may ground his opinion. On the contrary, the decomposition of the nitric acid is effected by the agency of caloric, and, at the moment of transition of this substance from a liquid to a gaseous state, a considerable absorption of caloric might take place, without being perceptible to the senses. These two airs are azote and oxygen, and it has been proved by actual experiment that both, in passing from the æriform to the liquid or solid state, give out considerable quantities of caloric. In proof of which our author has only to consult the papers of Mr. Biot* and of Mr. Northmore.† The former of these, by mechanical pressure, effected the union of oxygen and hydrogen gases, which was attended by a 'strong luminous explosion.' It has been observed, that the mere compression of atmospheric air in the reservoir of an air-gun has been followed by the production of light and heat. Dr. Ewell observes, that 'when we bring two airs together, the ammoniacal and the muriatic, they

form a solid, and yet throw out no heat.' Now in the statement of this action, he has been guilty either of unpardonable negligence or of great want of candour, that he might bring it as a formidable argument against the truth of Dr. Black's theory. Had he taken the trouble of consulting his oracle, Mr. Accum,* he would have found, that the union of ammoniacal gas with ordinary muriatic acid gas is attended by a 'considerable' evolution of caloric; but when this alkali is mixed with the oxy-muriatic acid, the combination is attended with a 'rapid detonation, and accompanied with a white flame.†' The observation, that water gives out different quantities of caloric, when rendered solid by freezing, and by combining with quicklime, is no proof in favour of our author's hypothesis. Having given our chemical readers an account of Dr. Ewell's objections to the theory of Dr. Black, we shall now present them with his own hypothesis, and leave them to form their own opinions of its truth. He states his opinion to be, that the 'solidity and fluidity of bodies depend on the same cause which varies their capacities for heat, and this is, the exercise of the particular affinities of the body, in the circumstances existing in the different degrees of heat.' p. 75.

The discourse on heat is terminated by an account of some experiments, instituted by our author to ascertain the ponderability of caloric. From the manner, in which these were conducted, tho' they have been 'addressed to that celebrated chemist, Dr. Mitchell, now of the United States senate,‡ and published in the Medical Repository, we do not hesitate to say,

* Nicholson's Journal, vol. 12. p. 212.
† Ibid. vol. 12 & 13. p. 361 et 238.

* Accum's Chem. vol. 1. p. 332.
† Ib. p. 342. ‡ P. 73—6.

that they are of little weight in determining the question, respecting the nature of heat, which has so long divided chemical philosophers. We ought to observe, that these experiments were made to prove the corporeal nature of caloric; for if heat can be weighed, the question respecting its materiality is at once decided. They consisted in dissolving salt in water, and weighing the solution after the absorption of caloric had ceased; 2dly, in adding sulphuric acid to water, and ascertaining the weight of the compound when it had fallen to the temperature of the ingredients before they were mixed. The conclusions, drawn from these experiments, are very remarkable. He affirms, that they gained or lost half a grain in weight for every ounce of the mixture, and his inference, presuming on their accuracy, is very natural, that 'heat is matter.' Now experiments to determine this question were made so long ago as the age of De Luc of Geneva, and they have been repeated and varied by Lavoisier, Dr. Fordyce, and Count Rumford, with the most scrupulous exactness, without any general acquiescence in the belief of either doctrine. Those of the latter were characterised, by delicacy of instruments and accuracy of calculation. Yet notwithstanding this combination of circumstances, which promised some positive conclusion, he was unable to detect either the accession, or loss of weight, in the heating or cooling of bodies. Consequently, the inference which he drew was, 'that neither the addition nor abstraction of caloric, makes any sensible alteration in the weights of bodies.*' The weight which Dr. Ewell gives to caloric, in his

experiments, is not far from that of a cubick inch of atmospherick air; yet, is it possible to believe, that this substance, which from its excessive tenuity has been termed unconfinable, can equal in specifick gravity another, which is confinable, almost tangible, and as easily managed as many liquid bodies? If the proof of the materiality of caloric depended solely on these experiments, the advocates of the contrary theory, we think, would have little trouble in establishing their positions.

In common with most systematick writers on chemistry, Dr. Ewell commences his discourse on light with a detail of its physical properties. In speaking however of the refraction, which the solar rays suffer in their passage from a rare to a dense medium, he has committed an important error, which has probably escaped detection merely from the inattention of the author. In proof of the refractive power of the atmosphere he affirms, that 'the sun sets and rises earlier, than appears to spectators.' Now, almost the converse of the proposition is true. In consequence of the refraction, which the rays of light suffer in their passage from a rarer medium through our atmosphere, the sun is apparently above, before he has actually reached, the plane of the horizon. Dr. Ewell surely cannot be ignorant of this fact, nor that the degrees of refraction at different altitudes have been accurately calculated by several eminent astronomers, particularly by Sir I. Newton, Mr. Simpson, and Dr. Bradley, whose tables may be seen in any elementary work on astronomy. Consequently, the sun rises *later* and sets *earlier*, than appears to the inhabitants of the earth.* We are now to view our

* Thompson's Chemistry, 2d ed. vol. 1. p. 306. Nicholson's Journal, 4to. series, vol. 3. p. 381.

* Enfield's Institutes, p. 256—7. Ferguson's Astronomy, 4th ed. p. 92.

author as the opponent of the illustrious Newton. We are always tempted to suspect, that when a young man commences an attack on universally received doctrines, which, in fact, are considered by the world as axioms in philosophy, he is actuated more by vanity, than the genuine spirit of philosophical inquiry. Dr. Ewell has undertaken to overthrow the theory of the prismatic colours, and to erect on its ruins his own more ingenious hypothesis. But we recommend to him the observation of the ancient poet,

‘Non omnia possumus omnes.’

He may be a good chemist, but he is no optician. It may not be amiss, however, to notice the arguments, which he adduces to disprove the correctness of these principles. He thinks, that the experiment of decomposing a ray of light by the refractive power of the prism, and the subsequent union of the primitive colours so as to produce the original ray, by no means conclusive. He goes on to observe, that ‘if the doctrine of the composition of light were true, it could not account for all the colours of bodies. To suppose, that blackness is the consequence of the absorption of all the light must be absurd; since it is only by the reflection of light that we are enabled to see black bodies; and since those, which are transparent, and of course allow the light to pass through them, are very far from being black. That whiteness does not proceed from the reflection of all the light is shown by the circumstance, that the whiteness of bodies is not in proportion to their reflection of light. Hence mercury, polished iron, and other metals, reflect more light, than the whitest paper.’ The futility of these objections will appear obvious to all, who are acquainted with the doctrine of light,

and the laws, by which it is governed in its passage through diaphanous, and its reflection from opaque bodies. It is true, that black bodies are seen by reflection, but this light is reflected from coloured bodies in their neighbourhood. When a black object is placed so as to intercept a portion of light, those rays, which pass along its edges, define its figure and mark its boundaries; and it is thus more by the interception of the rays of light from other bodies, that black substances are seen, than by its reflection from their own surfaces. 2.

The reason why diaphanous bodies do not appear black is, that they are capable of transmitting the rays of light, which Dr. Ewell thinks should produce that colour. While the sun is above the horizon, an immense body of light is continually flowing from different objects. These secondary, or reflected rays, passing in all directions, must necessarily, in some cases, strike upon these diaphanous bodies and be either reflected or transmitted, in consequence of which the latter will appear more, or less coloured. It is a well known fact, that objects are always seen more or less distinctly thro’ such substances, arising from the less or greater refraction of these accidental rays of light. 3. It is not necessary to the truth of the Newtonian doctrine of colours, that bodies must reflect all the light which fall on their surfaces. It is only necessary, that that portion, which is reflected, should be undecomposed, or be still composed of the seven prismatic colours. Consequently a body may appear white, which still transmits a portion of light, impelled on its surface. The truth of this observation has been demonstrated. According to the photometric experiments of Mr. Leslie, of 100 parts of incident light vellum pa-

per transmitted 49 parts, and thin post 62.* Our author next proceeds to the consideration of the theory lately advanced by some English philosophers, respecting the calorific and de-oxidizing solar rays.† Of this he is an unbeliever, and of course is very brief. He has mentioned neither the names, nor the experiments of Herschell, Wollaston, Ritter, and Englefield; and he dismisses the subject almost without comment, with this single observation, that it is 'too complex to be true'!

We shall now present our readers with Dr. Ewell's own theory of colours. He observes, that, 'our ideas of the colour of bodies appear to depend solely on the peculiar modification or motion of light given by the reflective surfaces. These reflective surfaces probably receive their respective powers, in consequence of peculiarities in their mechanism or organization.' Upon the supposition, that light is a homogeneous body, which it seems is the idea of our author, we can conceive of no other physical alteration it may undergo, by its appulsion on a hard body, than some change in the figure of its particles. But we have no proof, that this change of form does take place, nor that the surfaces of bodies are capable of producing this effect. We cannot conceive that colour should depend on any peculiar mechanism of matter. All the particles, however small, of a substance, when aggregated must form a mass, whose reflective surfaces are at least equal in number to the molecules of that body. Now each of these, we presume, is a plane surface with regard to the incidence of the rays of light; consequently, in what-

ever mode these surfaces are arranged, they can only reflect the light in an angle equal to that of incidence, which, thus reflected, may strike on other surfaces, and be reflected ad infinitum without any change of properties, and at length will reach the eye, where they will excite sensations differing, not in nature, but only in intensity. It will be evident to all, that a difference of motion of the rays of light can only excite corresponding stronger or weaker impressions on the retina, and consequently that these can be followed by perceptions only of different degrees or quantities of light. In support of his opinion, our author brings as proofs, that coloured liquids vary in colour as their position, with regard to the eye, is altered; and, 2, the appearance which the clouds present before the rising, and after the setting, of the sun. It is unnecessary, we presume, to take up more of the time of our readers in answering these objections. We have already exceeded the limits of a common review, and have reason to fear that it has become as tedious as a "tale twice told." We shall, therefore, finish the subject of light, by noticing another hypothesis of Dr. Ewell, on the agency of this substance in the production of the yellow fever. We mean not to enter on the discussion of its merits. It will be sufficient to observe, that from the nature of light, it appears inadequate to the effects ascribed to it in this theory, and that the phenomena can be more rationally explained on the principle of the action of caloric on putrescent animal and vegetable substances. It remains for us, therefore, only to advert to the two other unconfined substances, electricity and galvanism. We could not help admiring the lucid manner in which

* Leslie on heat, p. 445-6.

† Nicholson's Philosophical Journal, Vol. IV. No. 3.

our author defines the latter. 'Galvanism,' says he, 'resembling, in a few of its properties, the electric fluid, is one lately and accidentally discovered by an Italian, and which is generally termed galvanism, or animal electricity.' In fewer words, galvanism is a fluid, generally termed galvanism!

Under the head of electricity Dr. Ewell attempts to account for the production of light, during the passage of the electric fluid from one conductor to another, or from the clouds to the earth, by supposing that the latter diminishes or destroys the capacity of the air for the former. He quotes no authority in support of his opinion, nor does he mention the names of any of those philosophers, from whom he probably first received it. Indeed, from the manner in which it is introduced, his readers might be disposed to believe, that he was the person, in whom it first originated. Now Mr. Berthollet was the first, who attempted to account for the evolution of light and caloric from substances, acted upon by the electric fluid, by supposing, that their capacities for these elements were very much diminished in consequence of the sudden and violent compression of their particles.* This idea was more fully developed in a paper, read to the National Institute of France, by M. Biot, which has since been translated and re-published in Nicholson's Philosophical Journal.† It was afterwards noticed by the editor of this periodical publication,‡ and seems to have attracted the attention of Mr. Leslie, who had even written an essay on the subject, though it was never published.§

This theory is plausible and ingenious; but there is one strong objection, which is, that the luminous spark often appears stationary on the point of the conductor, and in that situation it is apparently as brilliant, as when moving with great velocity through the air. In this state, it is difficult to conceive, that the air should be so forcibly compressed, as to lose its capacity, and consequently evolve the light and caloric, with which it was combined.

We have thus finished the review of those simple elementary substances, which are termed by Dr. Ewell, on the authority of Thompson and Fourcroy, unconfined. We have been more diffuse in our examination from a belief, that they contained much false theory and incorrect statement, and this is the only apology we have to offer for our prolixity. In our next number we shall finish our observations on this work by considering its more immediate object, the application of the principles of chemistry to domestic affairs or to those arts, on which the ease and comfort of society essentially depend.

[To be continued.]

ART. 11.

The Wanderer of Switzerland, and other Poems, By James Montgomery. Boston: Greenough, Stebbins, & Hunt, and J. F. Fletcher. 1807. 18mo. pp. 177.

WE claim some regard for having first brought this beautiful collection from the solitary corner of a shop into general notice, by publishing some of the shorter odes in our poetical department. The Muses of England do not often utter sweeter notes, than these, combining the simplicity of Burns

* Berthollet's Chemical Statics.

† Vol. 12. p. 212.

‡ Vol. 13. p. 89—90.

§ Leslie on Heat. Note 17.

with the tenderness of Rogers. Those, who have been delighted with 'The Daisy,' 'The Snow-Drop,' 'The Lyre,' and 'The Grave,' extracted into several numbers of the Anthology for the last year, will purchase this little volume with readiness. We easily discern, that the author is little versed in the writings of his brother bards, and perhaps wholly ignorant of the works of antiquity; but, if his natural taste has not yet been cultivated to the utmost, we find, perhaps on that very account, more of originality of thought and simplicity of language. The first poem is pathetick, almost beyond whatever our language can boast in its ancient or modern ballads. However animating may have been the strains of Tyrtæus, of whom Horace tells,

.....manes animos in Martia bella
Versibus exacuit,.....

we cannot believe, they would bear the palm from the 'Battle of Alexandria.' The 'Remonstrance to Winter' contains the only verse in the volume, eminently exposed to censure.

'Spring, the young cherubim of love,
An exile in disgrace,
Flits o'er the scene, like NOAH's dove,
Nor finds a resting place.'

Without a knowledge of Hebrew, the author might have learned, that our best writers use 'cherubim' only in the plural number. The offence against prosody, in the third line, is grating to the ear, and justifiable by no example. The beautiful thought, in this passage, will always be degraded by this mistake of quantity; but this single fault ought to be forgotten in the general harmony of the verses. The poem, which pleases all, must possess intrinsic merit. Montgomery is

defective, like all our great poets, in some matters of inferior importance; but he has a magnificence of imagery, and a dignity of sentiment, that few have equalled. He has the life-giving stamina of originality, and will be numbered, by after ages, in the ranks of genius.

Ollis igneus vigor, caelestisque origo.
VIRG.

They have a fiery force, and their origin is from heaven.

ART. 12.

Economica: a statistical manual for the United States of America. By Samuel Blodget, Esq. Printed at Washington. 1806. 8vo.

AS the profession of a statesman is generally the ambition of few, the science of finance, which regulates the publick revenue and expenditures, and the interesting study of political economy, have been but little attended to, and but partially understood. When it is considered, that the publick treasury is filled by contributions from all classes of citizens, in different proportions, and in various forms, an investigation of the principles and progress of accumulation must be acknowledged highly important.

A wise statesman, however, will not confine himself to the mechanical business of levying and receiving taxes, and expending them for the support of government. He will rather create new channels of industry, and open new fields for the employment of useful labour, and all his exertions will be to change the unproductive labour of his fellow-citizens, for more valuable employments. For this purpose, he will naturally turn his attention to manufactures, internal

navigation, and other subjects, tending to facilitate land or water transportation.

The *Economica* seems to have been undertaken with a laudable zeal to excite inquiries concerning such subjects, and had the work been more conformable to the title, or, which would have been less difficult, the title better adapted to the work, its aspect would have been less deceptive, and the reader less disappointed.

The author's plan is displayed in a letter to a young member of congress, in which he gives his own system of legislation, and earnestly calls upon the representatives to pay more attention to their duty, and *modestly* intreats 'all our young legislators to forget, at least for the time of their session, a part of their extreme local-ity ; and to fancy, if possible, the apron-string of COLUMBIA as natural a tie to their affections, as that of an amiable mother or a beloved wife.'

Having long been engaged in statistical studies, and enjoying many opportunities of acquiring authentic data, the writer might have compiled a very valuable set of tables, with more ease and convenience to himself, and more entertainment and instruction to his readers, if he had devoted less time to legislation, and confined his ingenious speculations to the pursuits of political economy. But legislation is not his fort. In page 18 he says,

'All taxes being hated, as if obnoxious to the people, except in times of imminent danger, or when some noble monument, or charity, or university, or school, excites a noble emulation, they should be kept out of sight, and of feeling, if possible.'

Now, whatever may be the ideas conveyed by the term 'taxes,'

they have always been found necessary for the maintenance of government, and all the ingenuity and wisdom of ancient or modern legislation have not been able to free the people from paying them, either in the form of imposts, duties, excises, customs, or subsidies, &c. Since taxation therefore, under one form or another, is the inevitable result of the social compact, an enlightened government should endeavour to render it light as possible, explaining the mode in which it is accomplished ; although, at the same time, it may be always good policy to impose some direct taxes, that the people may not forget their occasional necessity. If, instead of this, we admit the odiousness of expense, and then, with a kind of state legerdemain, contrive to conceal its imaginary deformity, and create a revenue by a course of smuggling, we give occasion to jealousy and discontent, and all the evils which a dark and mysterious policy begets, but which an open and undisguised system of measures can alone avoid.

Next to the prefatory address the author presents us with a 'brief chronological detail of interesting facts, relative to the discovery and progress of the American states ;' with the constitution, and a statistical table of the population and general wealth of the union. This table consists of 6 pages, which serves as the text for 130 pages of notes, without any division, arrangement, or very intelligible application. Many valuable tables are interspersed among the notes, which form admirable resting places to the reader ; and the occasional extracts from other authors, frees his mind from the perplexities and confusion in which the long periods, obscure senten-

ces, and inconclusive reasoning of the writer, involves him.

In page 81, in note B. he says,

'Another law, for each and every state, would have an excellent tendency to extend *neat husbandry*, viz. After the year ****, no citizen, or single freeholder, should hold more than **** acres in any one county or state.'

This, to be sure, might assist '*neat husbandry*,' but does not seem calculated to preserve *neat* liberty. The impolicy and absurdity of such a law, requires no comment; and when he proceeds to state the impending dangers of over-grown landholders, we want better evidence than he has yet adduced.— He says,

'If it be true, that all republicks are finally ruined by the monopoly and tyranny of their over-grown landlords, we cannot be too well guarded against the danger in the older counties of the several states. All this will occur in due time, or an Agrarian must be the consequence, as in times of antiquity, unless the *minor republicks*, or monied associations, and generally commercial habits, should secure and perpetuate the glorious freedom of America.'

From this passage we may infer, that the writer entertains a *comfortable* hope, that, 'in due time,' the republick will be in danger of being overthrown by the power and influence of land-holders; but as his work is intended for the United States, he either reasons wrongly, or he forgets the innumerable acres in the western states, yet unoccupied, together with the unexplored and unknown territory of Louisiana. If any republick can be in danger from the land-holders, and such an opinion is not authorised by the history of any country, it must be a small one, and very populous; but, in a country where so much land remains unimproved, an Agrarian law would produce

consequences directly the reverse of those the author contemplates.

After having represented the attachment which the Romans manifested for their capital city, and the enthusiastick love the French bear to Paris; after relating the lamentable sacrifice, made in the sale of publick lots at Washington, in 1802; and after calling the attention of congress, to the project of opening canals and turnpike-roads from the seat of government, in radial lines, to all parts of the union, he thus addresses them:

'*Fathers of the American people!* be assured of this sacred truth! until you can agree, with *heart and hand*, to love THE HEART OF OUR UNION, the people will never respect their HEAD.'

To love with the heart is natural enough; but when love becomes so intense as to require the assistance of the hands, the lover is in a deplorable situation. We must confess, this apostrophe seemed a little strange at first, but the author has informed us in the prefatory address, that he owned several hundred house lots in the city of Washington:

Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas.

We cannot acknowledge the great utility of a national debt, which the author appears to think so highly advantageous. His ideas of publick loans, for the purpose of establishing publick credit, are founded on an imaginary basis, and cannot have the effect of increasing the confidence in government. In page 82, he shortly states the advances we make in population, and proposes, by foreign loans, to increase our numbers to such a pitch as to defy foreign invasion:

'We repeat, that our population increases at least 3 per cent. by an annual

compound, by which we double our population in about 23 years. We shall do this in less, if we become more commercial, and encourage, by all means, further useful emigration; *this we ought to do*, to place our country immediately in a state invulnerable to foreign invaders. The easiest means are, first, an increase of foreign loans; and the rest will then follow of course, as we trust we shall fully evince in other parts of our book.

Whenever the circulating medium of a country is sufficient to answer all demands, for the commercial and ordinary transactions of its inhabitants, a further increase is not only unnecessary but injurious. Money was invented rather as a substitute for credit, than as a subject of trade, and whenever it shall not supply the common purposes of domestick use, the money price of all articles, and land, will be lessened. When the circulating medium is multiplied, the consequence is reversed, and the nominal value of things seldom bought, will be increased. This is the only difference. But our author would increase it by foreign loans, that we may enhance the value of publick lands, and introduce a multitude of foreigners, to cultivate and improve them. If such an absurd theory can be sustained, the practice is impossible.

Many other erroneous principles will be discovered on perusing the 'Manual,' which we shall not particularise. His ideas of a publick debt, and the process of paying it by an advantageous change of publick stock, are very questionable, and result from a false notion of the value of the 'vital fluid' of the state. Many of his tables are trifling, and claim little credit; and his 'full and perfect inventory' of all the real and personal estate of the union, is rather a whimsical *vererie*, than an accurate and use-

ful statistical document. This inventory amounts, in round numbers, to \$2,505,000,000; but as articles of so great value seldom appear at market, we shall omit examining it.

Much credit, however, is due to the author for his labour in collecting materials and forming tables, relative to 'receipts and expenditures,' imports and exports, and various other subjects, which come naturally within the course of statistical inquiries, and political economy. In the table, containing the list of banks in the United States, we noticed a difference we little expected. In Massachusetts alone there were twenty-two banks in 1805, while all the other states afforded but forty-six. The same disproportion in publick schools exists, much to its honour.

The style, in which the manual is written, will not bear a close examination. Like some pieces of painting, examine it closely, and its roughness offends; viewed at a distance, its disproportions are monstrous. There are too many repetitions, and weak and trifling expressions, which are altogether unfit for a work of this kind, where clearness and simplicity are peculiarly requisite.

Although the Manual of Mr. Blodget cannot with impunity pass the ordeal of just criticism, his work will certainly claim attention for its novelty and importance. The inquiry into the causes of national prosperity, wealth, and happiness, can be looked upon with indifference only by those, in whom pecuniary or political aggrandizement has stifled all feelings of humanity.

Statistical inquiries originated and were first adopted in Germany, the publication of which gave rise to Sir John Sinclair's very

valuable and extensive statistical account of Scotland. The object of these was to acquire a knowledge of the strength of government on such subjects, as particularly relate to 'Matters of State.' But Sir John Sinclair extended the sphere, and affixed to the term '*Statisticks*' the idea of "an inquiry into the state of a country, for the purpose of ascertaining the quantum of happiness, enjoyed by its inhabitants, and the means of its future improvement." Thus defined, this science is certainly comprehensive enough for all purposes of political economy and statistical philosophy. It has hitherto been little considered; nor can very extensive investigations be made, without prompt and efficient aid from government. The want of scientific men, capable of conducting such inquiries; the great responsibility, to which any individual must subject himself; the difficulty of persuading others to co-operate, and of establishing a regular and enlightened correspondence; and the immense labour of collecting, arranging, and condensing the information, when obtained, relative to so extended and diversified a territory as the United States of America, are obstacles, which nothing but a liberal assistance from administration can remove.

It is certainly the duty of government to watch over the domestic economy of the state with the same care and solicitude, that it protects and fixes its foreign relations. In order to improve the commercial resources of the Union, it should make critical inquiries into the present state of manufactures, ship-building, and all the branches of manual labour, connected with them, and introduce such regulations and improve-

ments, as will most promote their usefulness. To extend the system of agriculture, it should ascertain the amount of produce annually raised, the number of labourers employed in the various departments of husbandry, and collect information relative to the soils best adapted to different vegetables. To lessen the quantum of unproductive labour, inquiries concerning the present state of inland navigation and turnpikes should be instituted, and the utility and practicability of any proposed additions or alterations designated. This is peculiarly important to a country, where so much land remains unoccupied, and where new settlements are continually forming, the prosperity of which must depend upon easy and convenient communications with distant and older settlements. In the banking system, inquiries should be made relative to the number, capitals, operation, and effect of banks, and the influence they have upon the internal traffick of the country. Under this head, the subject of money, in all its relations, will naturally be investigated. The subject of education also merits great attention. The number of universities, colleges, academies, and other seminaries of learning, should be obtained, and the modes of instruction, and the nature of the establishments, examined. These are subjects, upon which the beneficent and philosophick mind dwells with delight; but from which it turns with disappointment and regret, if those, who have the means, or who, urged by duty to the pursuit, view them with coldness and indifference.

If to combine science with the useful arts; if to convert idleness to industry, and beggary & wretchedness to competence and enjoy-

ment ; if to substitute learning and morals for ignorance and corruption ; if to introduce improvements in agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, and explode the present slovenly, unproductive, and awkward practices ; if, in short, to exert ourselves in the cause of promoting the strength and happiness of the nation, are objects worthy the attention of enlightened statesmen, an establishment, under the aid and patronage of government, must produce the most salutary and beneficial effects. As such a design would raise the moral and physical character of man, and as its foundations are laid deep in the interest and welfare of the community, it would certainly succeed, and its success would be attended with public confidence and gratitude.

ART. 13.

The Stranger in Ireland ; or a tour in the southern and western parts of that country, in the year 1805. By John Carr, Esq. of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, author of a Northern Summer, the Stranger in France, &c.

—' Arduus quales neque candidiores
Terra tulit, neque qualem ait devinctior
alter.' Hor. Lib. I. Sat. 5.

Third American edition. To which is now first added, an Appendix, containing an account of Thomas Dermody, the Irish poet, a wonderful instance of prematurity of genius. N. York, printed by I. Riley & Co. 1807.

How Carr's Stranger in Ireland and Dermody's life have been brought together, in the volume under review, is a thing which cannot be accounted for, on any principle of attraction in nature. The reason assigned for this curious arrangement is, that Dermody is

mentioned *incidentally* in Mr. Carr's publication ; this is too ridiculous to need any comment in proof of its absurdity : the booksellers can reason more pertinently on this matter.

What may be said of Mr. Carr's book, must either be confined to general opinions, or extended to a particular review, which, from the great variety of subjects, enumerated in this volume, cannot be done, consistently, with the space allotted to this department.

Prefaces, in general, are replete with vain ostentation or frivolous excuse, and we have seldom seen any, so widely different from the common herd, as that of the volume before us. After a summary of the author's design, and an acknowledgment of the assistance he has received, he concludes by a declaration, that if he has failed in the execution, the fault must be altogether attributed to himself. The design of the work is to illustrate the Irish character, and to give a descriptive narrative of a tour into the south and south-west parts of Ireland, and also some account of the state of society, in 1805 ; also the political economy, national manners, public buildings, &c., of that country.

The design is calculated to produce important effects, since it proposes to develop the real character of a nation, which has been hitherto very little known, or merely as the land of whiskey and potatoes.

The author has illustrated this character in a manner which does him very considerable honour ; and although his descriptions of Irish beneficence, &c. are sometimes overloaded, yet a pretty correct idea of Ireland's national character may be obtained from perusing this publication. The other

parts of his design are executed with ability, and prove the depth and extent of Mr. Carr's investigation.

To such, as read for their improvement, he has rendered his book highly profitable, by an abundance of useful matter; and those, who take up a volume, and put it down again, merely to fill up an interstice between their other amusements, will be tickled with many parts of the *Stranger in Ireland*.

On the other hand, the dignity of this work is considerably lessened by too great quantity of anecdote. "Salt (says Kaime) in certain quantities is seasonable at meals; but he must have a rare palate, who can make a dinner on salt." The numerous extracts from Curran, Grattan, Kirwan, &c. however profitable to the readers of this publication, are altogether extraneous from the author's design. We have no objection to an author's performing more than he promises, in the line of his subject, but when he would illustrate a national character by extracts from sermons and orations, as the method is somewhat singular, we should be glad to have a hint of it before hand.

The style of this volume is generally well adapted to answer the design, although in some parts crowded with superfluous epithets.

On the whole; Carr's *Stranger in Ireland* is the most correct and useful publication, giving an account of the Irish nation, that has ever appeared.

We shall now dispatch the 'Appendix, (so called) or some account of that surprising young genius, Dermody; extracted from the life of Dermody by J. G. Raymond, Esq.'

Dermody has been named 'the unfortunate poet of Ireland,' and

he undoubtedly was so, if to be unfortunate is to be surrounded with friends and patrons, and to rush headlong into almost every species of vice, notwithstanding the repeated admonitions of the one and the assistance of the other.

We attribute the high reputation, in which Dermody has hitherto appeared, not to his real abstract merit, but to his miseries; and this is more singular, since the miseries of Dermody were the effects of his own british propensities. When we mourn over the follies or vices of any one, we are inclined by pity and not by justice. Pity begets partiality for the object of our commiseration and partiality endeavours to palliate every fault, while it exalts every thing in the shape of merit far above its real desert.

While we suppose Mr. Raymond very partial to young Dermody, we trace a cause, although we find nothing like an excuse for the many improbable stories in these 'interesting' memoirs.—Did we believe in the Metempsychosis, we should at once conclude the soul of some ancient mythologist had revived in Mr. Raymond.—It is stated, that Dermody, 'when most children are scarcely instructed in the rudiments of their mother tongue, was perfectly familiar with the Latin and Greek languages, and could with facility read and comprehend the most difficult authors in those languages.'

What shall we say to this? that we do not believe the story, or that it is impossible? A child, perfectly acquainted with the Greek and Latin languages! Mr. Raymond is evidently distracted. We shall not therefore, remark any farther on these memoirs.

To such, as are desirous of

purchasing a correct edition of the *Stranger in Ireland*, handsomely printed, and on very tolerable paper, we would recommend that of I. Riley & Co. New-York: 1807.

ART. 14.

The Miseries of Human Life; or the groans of Samuel Sensitive and Timothy Testy, with a few supplementary sighs from Mrs. Testy. In twelve dialogues. Boston: Greenough, Stebbins, & Hunt, and Belcher & Armstrong. 12mo. pp. 220.

THIS is perhaps the best satire, that ever appeared, on the folly of such as magnify petty accidents and trifling vexations into irresistible misfortunes and intolerable grievances. To grumble, is one of the most observable characteristicks of Englishmen, and we, their descendants, enjoy their vices, not less than their virtues, by hereditary succession.

In this work, which may be read by many with profit, and by all with pleasure, two persons meet to complain of every thing around, above, and within them; 'Twixt upper, nether, and surrounding fires.' At the first conference, after a warm, but amicable contest on the irritability of each, which is closed by a mutual concession, that the mind of one party and the body of the other is more exposed by susceptibility of misery, Sensitive opens, 'What, my poor sir, are the senses, but five yawning inlets to hourly and momentary molestations? What is your house, while you are *in* it, but a prison, filled with nests of little reptiles, of insect annoyances, which torment you the more, because they cannot kill you? And what is the same house, when you are *out* of it, but a shelter, *out of reach*, from the

hostilities of the skies? What is the country, but a sandy desert at one season, or a swallowing quagmire at another? What the town, but an *upper* Tartarus of smoke and din? What are carriages, but cages upon wheels? What are riding-horses, but purchased enemies, whom you pamper into strength, as well as inclination, to kick your brains out?' &c. &c.

It is not worth our time to mention the divisions and subdivisions of misery; but we can assure the *fidgety*, that every topick of complaint is here largely discussed for their use. The moral, with which it concludes, is excellent, and might be recommended from the pulpit, as well as the novels of Richardson. All nervous criminals will be laughed into amendment. The author, who, we are informed by a letter from London, is the Rev. Mr. Beresford, an Oxford scholar, eminently deserves the praise, which Persius gives to his great master in satire.

Omne vafer vitium ridenti Flaccus amico
Tangit.

This book is worthy of universal perusal, and may be read in momentary snatches on the sofa. The puns of Dean Swift are rivalled here, so that no cynick is too hard to be melted by them to laughter. The best are from the Latin, which the author seems more conversant with, than our English poets. Groan No. 12, of the *Miseries of London*, is a fine instance.

'In going out to dinner, already too late, your carriage delayed by a *jam* of coaches.

'*Ned Testy*. Jam, jamque magis cunctantem.'

A better example is Groan No. 34, in the chapter of the *Miseries of the table*, &c.

'As for myself, between the mis-

chief to my nerves, if I do drink tea, and to my comfort, if I do not.—

'*Ned Testy*. You may cry with Martial,.....*Nec TEA-cum* possum vivere, *nec sine TEA.'*

It will be remembered by the readers of the Spectator, that the original line is rendered by Addison, "There is no living with thee, nor without thee." Of the English puns it may perhaps be said, "far-fetched and little worth," yet from Dryden's Alexander's feast we find one or two very palatable. But to extract excellencies might be endless.

The American Edition appears very neat, and we hope it is as correctly printed, as the London copy, which has not offended us with any faults during some months acquaintance.

ART. 15.

The Battle of the Eutaw Springs, and Evacuation of Charleston, or the glorious 14th of December, 1782, a national drama in five acts. By William Joor, of St. George, Dor-

chester, South-Carolina, &c. &c. Charleston, printed for the author by J. Hoff, 1807. Entered according to act. of Congress, &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c.

RARE stuff this! But as Mr. Joor must have had his brains blown out in this same battle, it is not so bad. Like the productions of learned goats or pigs, or of those beings, who write and sew with their toes, and cut wood with their teeth, it excites our admiration. The errors and absurdities, with which it abounds, the want of common sense, and the want of a plot, are all very pardonable. We recommend it to '*The Republicans of South Carolina in general, and to those in particular, who were liberal and patriotic enough to bestow on it the meed of unbounded applause,*' as the rarest dish of gallimaufry, that we have ever yet seen. To these gentlemen the unhappy author has already presented it in his dedication, and to them, we most cheerfully commit it.

CATALOGUE

OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

For MARCH, 1807.

Sunt bona, sunt quedam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

The Fifth Volume of the Life of George Washington, commander in chief of the American forces during the war which established the independence of his country, and first president of the United States. By John Marshall. 8vo. with maps, &c. Philadelphia, Caleb P. Wayne.

Reports of Cases, argued and determined in the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, decided by the Superior Court of Chancery for the Richmond

District. Part I. Vol. I. By William W. Hening, and William Munford, Esquires. Richmond, Virg. \$1,50 in boards. 1807.

The Echo; consisting of burlesque, political and literary productions, in verse. 8vo. With elegant plates, designed by Tisdale, and engraved by Leny. Price 2 dollars 50 cents. Porcupine press, and for sale by Brisban & Brannan, New-York.

The Trials of William S. Smith and Samuel G. Ogden, for misdemeanours, had in the circuit court of the United

States, for the New-York district, in July, 1806: with the preliminary account of the proceedings of the same court, against Messrs. Smith and Ogden, in the preceding April Term. By Thomas Lloyd, Stenographer. New York. I. Riley & Co. For sale by Brisban & Brannan.

A faithful Report of the Trial of the cause of Philip I. Arcularius vs. Wm. Coleman, Gent. being an action for a libel, tried at the sittings before his honour Judge Livingston, on Saturday, January 3d, 1807; containing the arguments of counsel, and decisions of the court upon the points of law and evidence which arose—also the summing up of the judge at full length, taken in short hand, by William Sampson, Esq. and given to the publick at the request of some of his friends. New-York, Bernard Dornin.

Hamilton's Advice, or an inquiry into the propriety and consistency of Governour Lewis being supported by the federalists, while they oppose the election of all his friends, by a Friend of Gen. Hamilton.

"Aut cum honore vivemus,
Aut voriamur honore."
Or let us nobly rise,
—Or nobly fall.

New York. 8vo. Price 25 cents.

The Voters' Guide; or, the power, duty, and privileges of the constitutional voters in the commonwealth of Massachusetts. To which are added, original remarks, with various extracts from historians, and the writings and publick speeches of eminent political characters in this and other countries, tending to explain the causes of the rise and fall of republican governments. By Abijah Bigelow, attorney at law. Leominster, S. & J. Wilder. 12mo. pp. 150. Price 50 cents in boards.

Marcus's Letters to De Witt Clinton, Esq. 8vo. New-York. Samuel Stansbury.

The Political Farrago, or a miscellaneous review of the politicks of the United States; from the administration of Washington to that of Jefferson in 1806. Including a short history of the Pittsburg insurrection, remarks on the Louisiana purchase, Mammoth cheese, federalism and republicanism, atheism and deism, luminism and witchcraftism, &c. &c. By Peter Dobbins, Esq. r. c. v. s. A. 12mo. pp. 59. 25 cts. Brattleborough—printed by William Feagenden, for himself. January, 1807.

French Homonyms, or a collection of words, similar in sound, but different in meaning and spelling. By John Martin, Professor of Languages in New York. §1. New York, Collins and Perkins.

The Mysteries of the Castle; or, The Victim of Revenge. A drama, in five acts—By John B. White, author of Foscari, &c. 8vo. 50 cts. Charleston, S. C. Negrin.

Rules of the Supreme Judicial Court, and sundry acts regulating the admission of Attornies. 8vo. Portland, Thomas B. Wait.

An Oration, delivered on the Commencement, at Brown University, September 3, 1806. By John Reed, jun. a candidate for second degree. Published by request. 8vo. Providence, John Carter.

A Print of Thomas Jefferson, engraved by Robert Field, from a Picture by Gilbert Stuart. §1. Boston.

Strictures on the establishment of Colleges; and particularly St. Mary's, in the precincts of Baltimore. By different writers. Price 25 cents. Baltimore. For the Booksellers.

The peaceful Reflections and Glorious Prospects of the departing Saint. A discourse delivered in the meeting-house of the First Baptist Church in Boston, March 10th, 1807, at the interment of the Rev. Samuel Stillman, D. D. late pastor of said Church. By Thomas Baldwin, D. D. pastor of the Second Baptist Church in Boston. pp. 31. Boston, Manning & Loring.

A Sermon, delivered before the New York Missionary Society, at their annual meeting, April 3, 1804. By John H. Livingston, D. D., S. T. P. To which are added, an appendix, and other papers relating to American missions. Worcester, Thomas & Sturtevant.

A Sermon, delivered Nov. 3, 1806, at the funeral of Mrs. Mary Yates, consort of the Rev. Andrew Yates, who died October 31st. By Abel Flint. Hartford. Hudson & Goodwin.

A Sermon, delivered Nov. 30, at the dedication of the brick meeting house, in the north parish in Danvers. By Benjamin Wadsworth, A. M. Salem. Joshua Cushing.

Genuine Religion, the best friend of the people; or the Influence of the Gospel, when known, believed, and experienced, upon the manners and happiness of the people. By Archi

Bald Bonar, A. M. J. How. Charles-town. 1807.

A Letter on the subject of Episcopacy, from Samuel Osgood, Esq. to a young gentleman of New York. 31 cents. New York, Collins & Perkins.

Sobriety, watchfulness, and prayer, illustrated and urged, in a farewell sermon, delivered, Waterbury, Con. Dec. 21, 1806. By Holland Weeks, A. M. late pastor of the first church in said place. New Haven. Oliver Steele & Co. 1807.

The Christian's Magazine: Intended to promote the knowledge and influence of Evangelical truth and order. Vol. I. No. 1. To be published quarterly; 8vo. Price two dollars per annum. New-York. J. & T. Ronalds.

NEW EDITIONS OF WORKS.

An account of the Life and Writings of James Beattie, LL.D., late Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic in the Marischal College and University of Aberdeen, including many of his original letters. By Sir William Forbes, of Fitaligo, Bart., one of the executors of Dr. Beattie. 8vo. pp. 559. \$2,50 in boards. New York, Brisban and Brannan. March, 1807.

Vol. I. of Lectures on the Elements of Chemistry, delivered in the University of Edinburgh; by the late Joseph Black, M. D. Professor of Chemistry in that University, physician to his Majesty for Scotland, Member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, and the Imperial Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg. Published from his manuscripts by John Robinson, LL.D. Professor of Natural Philosophy in the university of Edinburgh. First American, from the last London edition. 8vo. pp. 394. Philadelphia. Mathew Carey.

Vol. III. Part II. of The New Cyclopaedia, or Dictionary of Arts and Sciences. By Abraham Rees, D.D., F.R.S., editor of the last edition of Mr. Chambers' Dictionary, with the assistance of eminent professional gentlemen. First American edition, revised, corrected, enlarged, and adapted to this country, by several literary and scientific characters. 4to. Price \$3,50 for the half-volume. After the publication of the 5th vol. the price will be \$5. Philadelphia, S. F. Bradford. Lem-

uel Blake, No. 1, Cornhill, agent in Boston.

Essai Historique. Or, The Diversions of Purley. Part II. By John Horne Tooke, A.M., late of St. John's college, Cambridge. The first American edition, from the second London edition. 8vo. pp. 2d part, 432. Philadelphia, William Duane.

Vol. II. of The Works of the Right Honourable Edmund Burke. Boston, J. West, and Oliver Cromwell Greenleaf. Carlisle, printer. 8vo. \$2 in boards. \$2,50 after the 10th of April.

The Reports of the most learned Sir Edmund Saunders, Knt. late Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, in the time of the reign of his most excellent majesty Charles the second. With three tables: the first with the names of the cases; the second of the matters contained in the pleadings; and the third of the principal matters contained in the cases. The first American, from the third London edition, with notes and references to the pleadings and cases, by John Williams, serjeant at law. In 2 vols. Vol. I. large 8vo. Price \$6. Philadelphia, P. Byrne. [The second volume of this work is in forwardness, as is the fourth volume of Dallas's Reports, and the fourth or new series of Basanquet & Puller's Reports.]

Collins's Quarto Family Bible, with, or without Maps and Engravings. Philadelphia.

Memoirs of the Life of Marmontel, written by himself. 2 vols. 12mo. \$2 bound. New-York, Brisban & Brannan. February, 1807.

Number II. of the second Boston edition of Shakespeare's Plays. Containing Merry Wives of Windsor, Measure for Measure, Comedy of Errors, with notes by Johnson, &c. 12mo. price 42 cts. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

An Abridgement of the History of New-England, for the use of young persons. Now introduced into the principal schools in this town. By Hannah Adams. Second edition. Boston. Etheridge & Bliss. 12mo. pp. 188.

A Critical Pronouncing Dictionary, and Expositor of the English Language. In which not only the meaning of every word is clearly explained, and the sound of every syllable distinctly shewn, but where words are subject to different pronunciations, the authorities of our best pronouncing dictionaries are fully

exhibited, the reasons for each are at large displayed, and the preferable pronunciation is pointed out. To which are prefixed, Principles of English Pronunciation; in which the sounds of letters, syllables, and words, are critically investigated, and systematically arranged; the influence of the Greek and Latin accent and quantity, on the accent and quantity of the English, is thoroughly examined, and clearly defined; and the analogies of the language are so fully shown, as to lay the foundation of a consistent and rational pronunciation. Likewise, rules to be observed by the natives of Scotland, Ireland, and London, for avoiding their respective peculiarities; and directions to foreigners, for acquiring a knowledge of the use of this dictionary. The whole interspersed with observations, etymological, critical, and grammatical. By John Walker, author of Elements of Elocution, Rhyming Dictionary, &c. Price \$3,50, bound. Philadelphia.

The Wanderer of Switzerland, and other poems, by James Montgomery. 1 vol. 18mo. pp. 177. 75 cents, extra boards. Boston: Greenough, Stebbins, & Hunt, and James F. Fletcher.

The Biography and Letters of that celebrated wit and beauty, Ninon de l'Enclos, translated from the French, by Mrs. Griffiths, including also the correspondence between her and St. Evremond, and also with the marquise de Sevigne. New-York, David Longworth.

A Treatise on Malignant Intermittents. By J. L. Alibert, Physician to the hospital of St. Louis. &c. &c. Third edition, revised, corrected and enlarged. Translated from the French, with an introductory discourse, occasional notes, and an appendix. By Charles Caldwell, M. D. &c. Price \$2 in boards. Philadelphia.

Narrative of the Adventures of an American Navy Officer, who served during part of the American Revolution under the command of Com. John Paul Jones, Esq. It is proper to state, that this "American Navy Officer" is Captain Nathaniel Fanning, late commander of Gun Boat No. 2, who died in Charleston, in the summer of 1805. Philadelphia.

An easy introduction to Arithmetic; by Thomas Randolph, Philadelphia. B. Johnson.

Letters to a Young Lady, in which the duties and character of women are considered, chiefly with a reference to prevailing opinions. By Mrs. West; author of Letters to a Young Man. 1 vol. 8vo. \$2,50 bound. Albany, Parker & Bliss.

The Miseries of Human Life; or the Groans of Samuel Sensitive and Timothy Testy; with a few supplementary sighs from Mrs. Testy. In twelve dialogues. First American, from the 3d London edition. 12mo. pp. 220. Boston, Greenough, Stebbins, & Hunt, and Belcher & Armstrong.

The Columbian Orator, containing a variety of original and selected Pieces; together with Rules, calculated to improve youth and others in the ornamental and useful art of eloquence. By Caleb Bingham, A.M. author of the American Preceptor, Young Lady's Accidence, &c. 7th edition. 12mo. Boston, Manning & Loring, for the author. February, 1807.

The Wonders of Creation, natural and artificial, containing an account of the most remarkable mountains, rivers, lakes, caves, cataracts, mineral springs, Indian mounds, and antiquities in the world. In 2 vols. 12mo. Boston, John M. Dunham.

The Middlesex Collection of Musick; or, Ancient Psalmody Revised. Containing a variety of plain psalm tunes, the most suitable to be used in divine service; to which is annexed, a number of other pieces of a more delicate and artificial construction, proper to be performed by a choir of good musicians occasionally, in schools and religious assemblies. pp. 136. 75 cents. Boston, Manning & Loring.

Salmagundi; or, the whim-whams and opinions of Launcelot Langstaff, and others. 18mo. New York, David Longworth. Subscriptions received in this town by Etheridge and Bliss.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Ballads, by Walter Scott, author of the Lay of the Last Minstrel. 12mo. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

Vol. 3d of The Works of the Right Honourable Edmund Burke. Boston: John West, and Oliver C. Greenleaf.

A volume of Sermons on the following subjects. A sermon to little children; the duty of speaking to the young; the young invited to the com-

munion; early piety the comfort of old age; discourse to the aged; dry bones restored; birds and beasts preaching to men; Joab laying hold on the horns of the altar; nothing to be withheld when Christ has need; the gate of heaven strait; the causes why many cannot enter the gate; the awful condition of such as are excluded; Pilate's inscription on the cross of Christ; the disciples gazing at the ascending Saviour; the rainbow around the throne; no temple in heaven; universal praise for redemption; the wheels of providence; the temper of a Christian with regard to moral good and evil; the impiety of pleading God's promise in excuse for neglecting plain duty—(and several others.) By Joseph Lathrop, D. D. Pastor of the First Church in West-Springfield. 8vo. about 400 pages; price \$1,75 bound. Springfield, H. Brewer.

A new novel, entitled, *Ira and Isabella*. By a Gentleman of Boston.—12mo. 75 cents, extra boards. Boston, Belcher & Armstrong.

A new edition of *Mackay's Navigation*. Philadelphia.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

.....
William Andrews of this town, Proposes to publish, by subscription, the works of William Paley, D. D. arch-deacon of Carlisle; with a Portrait of the author. In four handsome octavo volumes, containing I. The Principles of Moral and Political Philosophy. II. a view of the evidences of Christianity. III. Natural Theology, or the Evidences of the existence and attributes of the Deity, collected from the appearances of nature. IV. A Charge delivered to the clergy of the Diocese of Carlisle. V. A Sermon preached before the University of Cambridge. VI. A Sermon preached at the Assizes at Durham. VII. Three Sermons on various occasions. VIII. Reasons for Contentment. IX. Young Christian instructed. X. *Horæ Paulinæ*; or the truth of the Scripture History of St. Paul evinced by a comparison of the Epistles, which bear his name, with the Acts of the Apostles, and with one another. XI. *The Clergyman's Companion*.—This work will be printed in 4 octavo volumes, of 500 pages each, on a superfine wove paper, and new type. The

price to subscribers will be \$2 per vol. in boards, \$2,25 bound.

Robert Frazier's *Journal from St. Louis in Louisiana, to the Pacific Ocean*, in one vol. 8vo.

The editor of the *Companion*, in Baltimore, has announced his intention of Publishing a weekly literary paper, in an 8vo. form, to be entitled *The Observer*.

Cushing and Appleton, of Salem, propose to publish by subscription, a Poem on the restoration of learning in the East; which obtained Mr. Buchanan's prize. By Charles Grant, esq. M. A. fellow of Magdalen college. To be printed in 8vo. on fine wove paper, making from 40 to 50 pages; price 38 cts. stitched in ornamental covers.

J. M. Dunham, of Boston, proposes to publish *Sermons* by Hugh Blair, D.D. F.R.S. late professor of rhetoric and belles lettres in the university of Edinburgh. In three volumes complete, from the 25th London edition of 5 vols. To which will be prefixed the life of that venerable author. Price \$6 neatly bound and lettered.

Proposals are issued in Philadelphia, for publishing a new work, entitled *The Young Seaman's Assistant*, or a guide to naval tactics. Calculated particularly for young beginners, whether in the navy or in the merchant's service, as well as for the occasional reference of those acquainted with navigation. In three parts; embellished with nine copperplates, representing some very interesting particulars in naval tactics. By Wm. Shultz. Price \$2.

Thomas Dobson, of Philadelphia, proposes to publish an elegant edition of the *New Testament*, with those very full marginal references, known by the name of *Canne's Notes*. To be printed on a superfine royal paper, with an elegant new type; and will be comprised in one large quarto volume of about 700 pages; price to subscribers \$5. If this undertaking meet with suitable encouragement, proposals will be issued for printing the *Old Testament* in the same manner.

STATEMENT OF DISEASES, &c.

from Feb. 20 to March 20.

THE last days of February generally clear. Prevalent winds from the north-west. In the commencement of March, rain followed by fair weather. From the 8th day repeated snows, melting gradually under the influence of the sun, and arrested by frost at night; whence a moisture on the surface of the earth during a great part of the month. Prevailing winds, north-west and west.

Greatest cold, on the 21st February. Therm. 22°.

Greatest heat, on the 17th Mar. Therm. 41°.

Lowest station of the barometer 29.3, on the 25th February.

Highest station 30.4, on the 28th February.

The temperature of the atmosphere, during the month, has been of an equality very remarkable in this climate. The mercury in the thermometer rarely passing 6° above or below the freezing point.

The state of the atmosphere has been more particularly noted, on account of the prevalence of the epidemic catarrh, or influenza, adverted to in the last report. The symptoms, which seemed to be most common, are there stated. We shall now describe those, which appeared in the most severe and strongly marked cases, taking as a specimen a single instance. A person, who had risen suddenly in the night, was on the following day affected with the symptoms of a common catarrh or cold, which were succeeded by a cough. This diminished till, on imprudent exposure a week afterwards, she was seized with severe head-ach, violent pains in the breast, back, and limbs, then a fit of shivering, followed by nausea and vomiting. In three hours a general heat came on, and the chill was felt no more. After this sudden commotion of the system had subsided, the pains be-

fore mentioned were found to be diminished, except a pain in the left side of the breast, which became more distinct. A soreness was felt over the chest, rendered more uncomfortable by a short, dry cough. This soon became more moist; and the expectorated matter was once or twice tinged with blood. The tongue was covered with a white mucus: the pulse about 100. At this time a small degree of soreness of the throat existed, and this part was seen to be slightly inflamed. Total loss of appetite, and of the sense of tasting—Remarkable depression of mind. Those appearances continued, without much variation, for three days. Then the fever, and frequency of the cough, diminished, and the soreness of the chest went off. The other symptoms subsided so soon, that the patient left her chamber in a week from the attack; but still retained a white tongue, a degree of pain in the side, and cough, of which she was not freed on the 14th day.... Few cases occurred, where the attack was so violent as that in the instance abovementioned; but all the various forms of catarrh were witnessed during the prevalence of the disease. Although this complaint must be called a *catarrh with fever, febris catarrhalis*, yet there were some cases, where no febrile action could be observed. This remark has been made by STOLL on the catarrh, which prevailed at Vienna in February and March 1777. "*Febricula exigua, errabunda, plerosque tenuit, quosdam nulla.*" He says that women were more commonly affected than men; and so far as our observation has extended, we can apply the remark to the disease seen here.—This complaint has now diminished very considerably. Distinct from the disease described, there have been a few cases of *Rheumatism* and *Pneumonia*.

Erratum. Page 114, line 8 from top, for *mechanicks* read *arithmetick*.

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY

FOR
APRIL, 1807.

For the Anthology.

CLASSICAL LITERATURE.

In a former number a passage was cited from the great author of epick song, which might probably have given to his illustrious imitator the first hint of his design. It is presumed, that the reader will not conclude, that the Roman bard, in his formation of the character of *Aeneas*, was under *no other* obligation to Homer, than for the assistance which that passage afforded. One of Homer's heroes, Virgil kept constantly in his eye, and he was, in fact, the original of his own. Hector's character incorporates so well the hero and the man, the strong lights of the one, are so tempered and restrained by the mellowing shades of the other, that the mind is in a continual state of fluctuation, pity rises into admiration, admiration relapses into pity. At one moment we behold the helmet of the warrior glittering consternation* in the midst of his

enemies ; and we feel the stormy raptures of battle ; in the next the helmet loses its lustre, and we see him resigning his mind to the empire of the paternal and conjugal endearments. There is one remarkable point of contact between the two great champions of the respective armies, well worthy of notice. Both Hector and Achilles know that they must fall before the walls of Troy. This, so far from abating, serves only to animate their confidence in battle. Paradoxical as this may appear, it is capable of solution. A hero does not live for his *life* ; he lives for his *fame* ; and when he knows but a short space is allotted for the *one*, is resolved in that short space to give an eternity to the *other*. The character of Hector is moreover touched, by the hand of his immortal biographer, with an interest still more engaging. He knows that his native city is eventually to fall into the hands of a merciless enemy, that all his valour can only procrastinate the fatal hour, that his aged parents are to die by the sword, and the wife of his bosom to be sold a slave in foreign lands.

* There is one passage in the *Iliad*, descriptive of the plume of an helmet, of such, resplendent beauty, that I cannot resist the pleasure of transcription :

'Wide wav'd the golden honours of his head,
Trembled the sparkling plumes, and the loose glories shed.'

In the combat between Achilles and Hector, the point where Homer reserves the whole fire of his genius, the characters of the respective heroes blaze out in all their effulgence; but the effulgence is peculiarly *distinct* and *appropriate*. Hector found this the trying hour of his fortitude. His army is defeated, safe within the walls of the city, and himself only without, his implacable enemy approaching, whose prowess he has proved, and knows it superior to his own. His aged parents are on the ramparts, who, by every tender expostulation and intreaty, implore him to save Troy and themselves from certain destruction by declining the combat. In defiance of all these, he calmly meets his fate, and is denied his dying request, that his *corpse might be restored to his parents, and find a tomb in his native country*.

Often has it excited my surprise, that historick painters have not made this combat the subject of their pencils. One might represent a sketch of the walls of the city, the Trojan hero before them, his parents on the ramparts in the attitude of intreaty, the terrific Achilles approaching, and the contention between filial tenderness and fortitude in the countenance of Hector. Another might represent the two champions preparing to engage, and by a delicate delineation ascertain the scowling brow of Achilles, and his sanguinary eye, opposed to the calm and unruffled countenance of his antagonist. The next might show us the corpse of Hector despoiled of arms, and Achilles gazing on it with an inexorable countenance and a ferocious delight. Let any master of the pencil replenish his mind with Homer's ideas, and he will find in himself an original as

accurate to the eye, as if the bodies were presented for the transcription of light and shade.

This patriotick martyr was undoubtedly the original, from whence Virgil drew his portrait. Will it be thought poetical blasphemy to declare, that the shadow does not preserve in every feature the splendour and the inviolable interest of the original? Virgil, whose genius savoured more of the pathetic than the sublime, delighted to indulge in subjects most auspicious to his Muse. Whenever therefore Æneas mourns for the loss of his parent or his consort, or is agitated for the welfare of his surviving boy, the bard is perfectly at home. Such tender scenes are so plainly the favourites of his pencil, that he suffers no opportunity of that kind to pass unimproved. Witness the filial expostulation of Æneas with his father, to dissuade him from his determination not to survive the downfall of Troy; his anxiety, when he found his wife no longer the living companion of his bosom; the amiable contest between the two friends, Nisus and Euryalus, while the former endeavours to dissuade the latter from the meditated expedition, that he acknowledged might prove ruinous to *himself*; but at the same time might involve his *friend* in the same calamity; the affecting scene, where the aged mother of Euryalus deploras the death of her son; all these, and a multitude of others, proclaim that Virgil's muse was alive to the touch of the pathetic.

Homer, familiar to the sublime and the grand, now and then condescended to indulge his mighty fancy in the pathetic. Virgil's muse is occasionally lifted from the pathetic to the grand. This distinction rationally accounts for

the manifest diversity of character, which the original and the copy represent. Homer sinks to the pathetic, and the descent is easy; Virgil rises to the sublime, and it costs him an effort, and a struggle. Hector, amidst all his calamities, sheds not a single tear; Æneas scarcely fights a battle without one. A confusion of character is created by this, and the mind refuses to yield a ready assent to the fact, that a man, who weeps with so much facility, can fight with so much bravery. The Roman bard is anxious to impress his readers with the belief, that Æneas was more distinguished by his piety, than his valour. For this we have the authority of his own words.

*Quicquid apud duræ cepatum est
mœnia Trojæ;
Hectoris Enizque manu victoria Grai-
um
Hæsit, et in decimum vestigia retulit
annum,
Ambo animis, ambo insignes prestantibus
armis,
Hic pietate prior.*

Many English critics have censured both of these immortal bards for the prodigal introduction of their Deities. Adopting the maxim of Horace,

*Nec Deus intersit, nisi dignus vindice
nodus
Inciderit,.....*

they have not treated with becoming respect those celestial dignities, who condescended now and then to spare the blood of their favourites in the hour of danger by shedding their own. It is hoped, it will not be thought presumption, nor subject a man to the imputation of Paganism, to advocate the cause of Deities long since dead, who during their lives, if poets may be credited, rendered

such important services to poor mortals. The objection has not the true stamp of antiquity, and, like many ancient coins, bears too much the mark of modern time to be genuine. The success of battle then depended on muscular strength, and the dexterity of personal prowess: it has since become a science, and the ancient target, with all its subtlety of evasion, would not ward off a modern bullet. This gave rise to the thundering philippick of Don Quixote against gunpowder, because it threatened the overthrow of chivalry. Let the strength of a hero be what it might, provided it did not excel one of the earth-born giants of antiquity, it is altogether incredible, that he could achieve such wonders, as he frequently did, if he relied on the competency of his own nerves to accomplish them. Amidst such a storm of darts, hissing around his ears, a mind, not at all disposed to scepticism, would pause to inquire, how is it possible, that every one should fail of its own accord in accomplishing the object of its errand? Poets, aware of this difficulty, have summoned the superstition of the age, in which they lived, to their assistance, and have given their heroes sometimes a visible, and sometimes an invisible guard of Deities to defend them. The formidable objection of impossibility now vanishes at once; the darts are turned aside, or if they wound, the favoured hero goes through the ceremony of bleeding a little, and returns fresh for the combat. Achilles himself, who loved fighting better than music, has the honesty to confess, that

*'Tis not in him, tho' favour'd of the sky,
To mow down troops, and make whole
armies fly.'*

This is more important to the principle now advocated, as the hero was encompassed with immortal armour, impenetrable to mortal darts, and did not feel secure, even though he was 'favoured of the sky.' I hope, in this day, it will not be deemed necessary to vindicate the character of Achilles from that vulgar slander, *that his body was by his mother dipped in the river Styx, and rendered as impenetrable as his armour.* Achilles is wounded in the hand in the river Scamander, which is of itself a full refutation of that calumny. Recurring to the question, respecting the unnecessary interposition of the ancient Deities for the preservation of their heroes in the hour of danger, it is amusing to observe the dexterity of the poets. The doubt naturally suggests itself, that every man must die; and if he has a Deity to protect himself from death in one case, why not in another? According to this argument the hero would be immortal. Poets, especially those who can command supernatural assistance, are difficult men to entrap, and to obviate this objection they have created a power, whom they have denominated *Fate*, against which it is out of the power even of the *immortals* to defend their heroes. So that until the very crisis of their destiny arrives, they, by celestial assistance, perform prodigies of valour; but when the time comes, in which only such assistance could be wanted, it is denied, and they are left to be the victims of

Fate. The bards, availing themselves of this poetick licence, crowd the narrow span of their heroes' lives with as many dangers, as fancy can depict, and after all, surrender them to mortality at last, by the *conclusive declaration*, "*sic fata jubeant.*"

The Pagans allowed to their Deities an unlimited agency in human affairs; they partook of the vices and virtues of the world, over which they presided, and even the father of Olympus was not exempt from them. Mortals, after their deaths, (Hercules for instance) were created Divinities, and some during their lives (Alexander for instance) were thus made Gods by anticipation. The objection above mentioned seems more particularly pointed against the gross notions of theology, than against the subordinate employment of the Deities. What wonder then that the Gods should assume an interest in human life, when, even before they had quitted it, they were allowed the exercise of their functions? By their heroism they had obtained, for the most part, their celestial pre-eminence: superstition had invested them above with the same propensities they harboured below; and, allowing this to be the case, it would be a violation of nature to represent them, as not *peculiarly interested* in the protection of those, who were their rivals on earth, and would soon be their equals in heaven.

R.

—*—
For the Anthology.

GENTLEMEN,

To such as respect the warm, vivid genius, and lament the hard, cruel fortune of Burns, no apology need be necessary for printing, as it was never published in America, the following letter of the Ayrshire Bard, written to Francis Grose, while collecting materials for "the Antiquities of Scotland." I send it to you for publication, not because it displays in full and free exercise either of his discriminative powers of mind, for it neither melts to tenderness, nor charms to rapture;—it neither glows with the breathing thoughts of pathos, nor beams with the burning words of fancy. It is however a letter of information, written, as such a letter ought to be written, in a clear, concise style; without eloquence to dazzle, without verbiage to weary.

If required to compare their characters, as Burns and Cowper appear in their respective letters, I should say, that Cowper always engages those feelings, which interest the reader in the fortune of the writer; but of Burns what should I say? I could only heighten the encomium, and say, that what Cowper with great labour does very well, Burns does incomparably better with no exertion. In Burns there is more of rustick honesty, more of frank, native politeness; in Cowper there is more of courtly sincerity, more of sly, acquired civility. Cowper plays upon the ear, he amuses, and instructs; Burns interests and delights, he steals into the heart. Burns always discovers "naked feeling"; Cowper, I am afraid, sometimes betrays "aching pride." Cowper is coldly liked—his foibles are pitied; Burns is warmly loved, his vices are pardoned. We read Cowper, as a husband treats his wife, with affection mellowing to esteem; we read Burns, as a lover courts his mistress, with esteem ripening to affection.

LETTER OF ROBERT BURNS TO FRANCIS GROSE, F. A. S. CONCERNING
WITCH-STORIES.

AMONG the many Witch Stories I have heard relating to Aloyway Kirk, I distinctly remember only two or three.

Upon a stormy night, amid whirling squalls of wind and bitter blasts of hail, in short, on such a night as the devil would choose to take the air in, a farmer or farmer's servant was plodding and plashing homeward with his plough-irons on his shoulder, having been getting some repairs on them at a neighbouring smithy. His way lay by the Kirk of Aloyway, and being rather on the anxious look-out in approaching a place so well known to be a fa-

vourite haunt of the devil and the devil's friends and emissaries, he was struck aghast by discovering through the horrors of the storm and stormy night, a light, which on his nearer approach, plainly shewed itself to proceed from the haunted edifice. Whether he had been fortified from above on his devout supplication, as is customary with people when they suspect the immediate presence of Satan; or whether, according to another custom, he had got courageously drunk at the smithy, I will not pretend to determine; but so it was that he ventured to go up to, nay into the very kirk. As good

luck would have it, his temerity came off unpunished. The members of the infernal junto were all out on some midnight business or other, and he saw nothing but a kind of kettle or caldron, depending from the roof, over the fire, simmering some heads of unchristened children, limbs of executed malefactors, &c. for the business of the night. It was 'in for a penny, in for a pound,' with the honest ploughman: so without ceremony he unhooked the caldron from off the fire, and pouring out the damnable ingredients, inverted it on his head, and carried it fairly home, where it remained long in the family a living evidence of the truth of the story.

Another story, which I can prove to be equally authentick, was as follows.

On a market day in the town of Ayr, a farmer from Carrick, and consequently whose way lay by the very gate of Aloway kirk-yard, in order to cross the river Doon at the old bridge, which is about two or three hundred yards further on than the said gate, had been detained by his business, till, by the time he reached Aloway, it was the wizard hour, between night and morning. Though he was terrified with a blaze streaming from the kirk, yet, as it is a well known fact, that to turn back on these occasions is running by far the greatest risk of mischief, he prudently advanced on his road. When he had reached the gate of the kirk-yard, he was surprised and entertained, through the ribs and arches of an old gothick window, which still faces the highway, to see a dance of witches merrily footing it round their old sooty blackguard master, who was keeping them all alive with the powers of his bag-pipe. The farmer,

stopping his horse to observe them a little, could plainly descry the faces of many old women of his acquaintance and neighbourhood. How the gentleman was dressed, tradition does not say; but the ladies were all in their smocks: and one of them happening unluckily to have a smock, which was considerably too short to answer all the purpose of that piece of dress, our farmer was so tickled that he involuntarily burst out, with a loud laugh, "Weel luppen* Maggy, wi' the short sark!" and recollecting himself, instantly spurred his horse to the top of his speed. I need not mention the universally known fact, that no diabolical power can pursue you beyond the middle of a running stream.—Lucky it was for the poor farmer that the river Doon was so near, for notwithstanding the speed of his horse, which was a good one, against he reached the middle of the arch of the bridge, and consequently the middle of the stream, the pursuing, vengeful hags, were so close at his heels, that one of them actually sprung to seize him; but it was too late, nothing was on her side of the stream but the horse's tail, which immediately gave way at her infernal grip, as if blasted by a stroke of lightning; but the farmer was beyond her reach. However, the unsightly, tail-less condition of the vigorous steed was, to the last hour of the noble creature's life, an awful warning to the Carrick farmers, not to stay too late in Ayr markets.

The last relation I shall give, though equally true, is not so well identified as the two former, with regard to the scene: but as the

* Luppen, the Scots participle passive of the verb to leap.

best authorities give it for Aloway, I shall relate it.

On a summer's evening, about the time that nature puts on her sables to mourn the expiry of the cheerful day, a shepherd boy, belonging to a farmer in the immediate neighbourhood of Aloway Kirk, had just folded his charge, and was returning home. As he passed the kirk, in the adjoining field, he fell in with a crew of men and women, who were busy in pulling stems of the plant ragwort. He observed, that as each person pulled a ragwort, he or she got astride of it and called out, "Up horsie!" on which the ragwort flew off, like Pegasus, through the air with its rider. The foolish boy likewise pulled his ragwort, and cried with the rest "Up horsie!" and, strange to tell, away he flew with the company. The first stage at which the cavalcade stopt, was

a merchant's wine cellar in Bourdeaux, where, without saying by your leave, they quaffed away at the best the cellar could afford, until the morning, foe to the imps and works of darkness, threatened to throw light on the matter, and frightened them from their carousals.

The poor shepherd lad, being equally a stranger to the scene and the liquor, heedlessly got himself drunk; and when the rest took horse, he fell asleep, and was found so next day by some of the people belonging to the merchant. Somebody that understood Scotch, asking him what he was, he said he was such-a-one's herd in Aloway; and by some means or other getting home again, he lived long to tell the world the wondrous tale.

I am, &c. &c.

ROB. BURNS.

AMUSEMENT.

For the Anthology.

NO. II.

WE continue our observations on the elegant performance, of which we commenced the review in the last number of the Anthology; and it may not be improper to give some account of the system, under which we intend to arrange our remarks.

This poem certainly deserves all the critick can bestow; and, although our limits will not permit us to insert the various notes, &c. supplementary to this review, yet, as soon as we can obtain a sufficient quantity of Hebrew types for the remarks of Abraham Sheva, the Jewish annotator, we intend to present a complete edition of all

the pragmatikal observations, notes and various readings, in twenty-seven neat folios. But, in the present course of remarks, although they are intended as nothing more than the precursor of our contemplated edition, we shall treat the subject, as logically as possible: we have therefore considered it most convenient with our design, first, to go through this performance by a course of analytical observations, and, when we have obtained a complete view of the several parts, whereof the subject is composed, to reduce these several members, by the synthetick method, to their orig-

inal combination. To determine to what order of poetry this performance belongs, to examine it by the rules of the scholiasts, and to compare it with other productions of the same order, will afford abundant matter for a separate essay.

Having made this necessary digression, we proceed to the review.

The cat's in the fiddle !

Various have been the opinions of the learned, respecting this particular part of our performance. The learned critick, whose name is mentioned at length in the preceding number, very handsomely refutes several conjectures, offered to invalidate our poet's antiquity. It has been questioned by an Italian commentator, whether, or no; fiddles were known to the ancients : the learned critick replies ; " Stulte, nescis quod ab Anglicanis *Fiddle* vocatum est, apud Latinos esse *Fidiculum* ? Si ignaro tamen, quam distant verba in eorum sonis ? Nec unquam audivisti, *τὸ κατὰ* idem significasse olim inter Græcos ? Cur non rogas, si feles olim vixerunt apud antiquos ?—But the most ingenious objection, against the antiquity in question, was made by a German, who wrote comments on this poem in 1201 ; which comments were discovered and published, together with the poem itself, by Gutteellberg, at Mentz, soon after the invention of printing, in 1478. This German, whose name was of very great length, and whose reputation among his countrymen was of course very considerable, affirmed, that he had made several experiments, and had satisfied himself, that it was utterly impossible for a kitten, of three days old, to enter at any aperture about a fiddle, without tearing off a considerable

quantity of its fur, and even rubbing its flesh ; and, as these exigencies had not been provided for by the poet, or, in other words, as they had not been mentioned by him, he concluded the poem, in toto, a forgery. But, however ingenious, these remarks are answered without any difficulty whatever. The German has used in his observations the word, *kehriwtoak*, which implies a fiddle of an inferior size ; and all his ingenious sophistication is thereby rendered nugatory, for he cannot say, but the fiddle, spoken of by the poet, was as capacious, as our largest bass-viol, which, from their sound, one would suppose might contain four of the largest rancats in the country, or their guts at least. But as the German cannot speak directly, as to the size of the fiddle in question, whether it was a violino concertini, ripieno, violoncello, or violone, so neither can we. We therefore relinquish this doubtful ground, and assume a new point ; *to wit*, if we are to believe, according to the opinion, advanced in the first number, that the poem was written in commemoration of certain miraculous events, it is impossible to admit any human reasoning in disqualification of the facts, related by the poet ; and, for the sake of perspicuity, we shall form our argument into a direct syllogism, thus ;

Human reason is limited to an investigation of the nature of things ;

Miracles are not in the nature of things :

Ergo.—Human reason cannot extend to the investigation of miracles.

We have been brief in refuting the above remarks and conjectures, because we have considered this subject very copiously in vol. 20. not. 18. pag. 634. of our projected edition.

The beautiful abruptness, displayed in the introduction to the subject, immediately after the portion of the poem, reviewed in the foregoing number, is, perhaps, without its parallel. Here no time is wasted in ridiculous invocations of mere creatures of the mind; neither does the poet consume three or four hundred lines in describing the contortions of the cat, at the time of her entrance into the fiddle. He barely states the fact, without any complication of imagery, which, he prudently foresaw, would unavoidably divert our attention from the main design. There is a poem, which has been deservedly celebrated, but which is certainly very far inferior to that under review, although many of the learned have held it in equal estimation. I refer to the poem, beginning thus;

Ding-dong, bell!
The cat's in the well!

This does not charm us by its abruptness, like

The cat's in the fiddle!

although it possesses, in an eminent degree, all the beauty of elegiac composition. But the first line prepares us for something extremely solemn, since bells ding-dong only on the most serious occasions. Dishclouteroff was therefore incorrect in supposing, that bells could be ding-dong'd for fires and town-meetings, since ding-dong implies a slower motion of the "campanæ malleus," than is used on such occasions. We are informed of the singular and wonderful fact, that the cat is in the fiddle, without any thing like premonition; we are not informed how she came there, nor how she will be extricated: our admiration is therefore raised to the highest

pitch, and we have to contemplate, not only the mode of her entrance into the fiddle, but how she will come out of it. On the contrary, in the poem, which some have pretended to compare with our unparalleled performance, we have nothing to cause our admiration; for it is easy enough to suppose a cat may be in a well, although very wonderful how she could be in a fiddle: and we could not wonder long, in the first instance, allowing our admiration had been raised; for the author continues thus;

Who put her in?
Little John Green.
Who pull'd her out?
Great John Snout.

So, we know the whole at once, and our admiration can exist no longer. In fact, these poems are not of the same class, and it is therefore ridiculous for any one to institute a comparison between them; it is absolutely "Gryphes cum equis."

It is truly surprising, that, excepting the present, we have no great poem of antiquity, that is not burdened with an invocation of the Muse; and it is very wonderful, that the ancient poets could relate nothing of any consequence, without the assistance of the Gods and Goddesses. Our author very reasonably concludes, that he can give us the necessary information, that the cat's in the fiddle, without invoking any supernatural agent to assist him in the narration. Had the poem now before us commenced with an invocation of the Muses; had the poet introduced a long and formal proposition of his subject; or had he attempted to describe the various attitudes, gestures, etc. of the cat, at the time of her entrance into the fiddle, the charm, by which we are now held in admiration, could have ex-

isted no longer, and the sublimity of this exordium would have been nothing, but a long concatenation of unmeaning expletives. We shall speak largely of the sublimity of this performance, when we come to examine it by the rules of the scholiasts. But our modern poets are just as bad, on the score of amplification and invocation, as the ancients. They cannot describe a battle, but the whole heavens must be in an uproar; nor can they relate the skirmish of a couple of insignificant scouts, without being at fifty times the trouble in describing, than the scouts were in fighting. In a word, they cannot speak of a palisado, counter-scarp, or ravelin, which my uncle Toby would have described in twenty minutes, and even corporal Trim in twice that time, without carrying us all through the covered-way, back again over the glacis, through the trenches, nor even without leaving us, after all, confoundedly mangled with the *chevaux-de-frize*: and, in doing all this, they must have the assistance of three of the Muses at least, with *Bellona* into the bargain.

If it will not lessen the dignity of our poem to compare any portion of it with a modern performance, let us, for a moment, compare the exordium with that of Addison's *Battle of Blenheim*:

But O, my Muse! what numbers wilt
thou find
To sing the furious troops in battle
join'd?
Methinks, I hear the drum's tumultuous
sound,
The victor's shouts, and dying groans
confound.

What man, so mad, so ignorant of the rules of Longinus, Aristotle, and all the schoolmen, as not to admire the superiour beauty of the following;

The cat's in the fiddle!

And if we will judge Addison by a modern criticism, let us refer to Dr. Blair; he observes, exemplifying his remark by the above lines, "This, and all introductions of the same kind, are a forced attempt in a writer to spur up himself and his reader, when he finds his imagination begins to flag." But, in this elegant performance, there is nowhere such a species of weakness. Let us suppose our author had begun like Addison; and we shall soon see, how far below it's present merit the poem will appear, when tortured with useless amplification:

But, O my Muse! what numbers can
be found
To sing the cat, within the fiddle bound.
To paint her form, what colours shall
avail?
Her lengthen'd talons, and extended
tail?
Methinks, I hear the sounds tumultuous
rise,
And cat and cat-gut fill the distant skies.

Our poet knew how far superiour the elegance and concinnity of his exordium would appear; when contrasted with loads of epithet and heterogeneous matter. He therefore rejected all superfluous ornament, which must necessarily have presented itself to his mind on this occasion, and confined himself to the bare relation of facts. Had he been inclined, he might have extended his performance to a greater length than any of his followers, Homer and Virgil not excepted. To say nothing of Homer's shield, our poet might have consumed an hundred lines very prettily in describing the fiddle, as did Virgil in describing the shield of *Æneas*. He might very well have delineated on the bottom, top, and sides of the fiddle, the four provinces of

Greece, ... Macedonia, Epirus, Achaia, and Peloponnesus; and, if the fiddle was of a superiour size, he might also have drawn out the cat's genealogy, after the manner of Virgil, and reserved the bridge for the Trojan states and dependencies. How happily might he have described the claws of the cat, like the gauntlets of Entellus!

Obstupere animi, tantorum ingentia septem

Terga boum, plumbo insuto, ferroque rigeant.

All wonder'd when her claws she first expos'd,

So firm, they seem'd of seven bulls'-horns compos'd.

In fine; we know of no poem, the exordium of which is so truly beautiful in any language.—Homer does not venture a single step in the Iliad, as well as in the Odyssey, without craving the assistance of the Muse. Virgil, more daring than Homer in this particular, has ventured to the distance of seven lines, and even proposed his subject, previously to his invocation. Silius Italicus has discovered himself as much the ape of Virgil in this particular, as in many others. Lucan has marked out for himself a road entirely new; he first proposes his subject, next begins the narration, and then invokes the Muse. But what shall we say of Apollonius Rhodius? His poem, on the expedition of the Argonauts,

begins with an invocation of no one; but the poet very familiarly tells Phœbus, by whom, he says, he is already inspired, that he intends to resound the deeds of some famous heroes; and, as the first part of this intelligence is probably somewhat new to Phœbus, the god must have a strange opinion of the poet, not very different from the idea we sometimes have of our visiting cousins from the country. But this is not all; after a few lines he invokes the Nine with all possible politeness, begging their assistance in the most obliging terms. Now, whether he intended to insult Phœbus by this impudent treatment, or, whether it proceeded from pure affection for the sex, it is not to our purpose to determine. It is however certain, that Phœbus resented it by withholding from him the assistance of the Muses almost altogether, for which we have the testimonies of Longinus, Quintilian, Scaliger, and Rapin.

But it is unnecessary to adduce any more examples from the ancients in proof of our poet's superiority, on account of his elegant and comprehensive brevity, in the exordium of his performance. And as we have more than once stated our determination to be as brief as possible, we think proper to close the present number. S.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE TO HIS FRIENDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

LETTER FOURTH.

Rome, Dec. 9, 1804.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

AMONGST the innumerable objects of curiosity and beauty,

with which this city abounds, it becomes extremely embarrassing to select those, which would be most interesting to one's friends.

In my very imperfect sketches to my friends I have taken up such detached subjects, as accidentally presented themselves. In my last letter to you I enumerated many of the extraordinary instances of that blind credulity and superstition, for which this country has been distinguished during the latter ages, and from the tyranny of which it has not yet been liberated. I could multiply these proofs without limit, but I fear that I have been already too diffuse on this point. I cannot however restrain myself from mentioning two paintings, which made a strong impression upon me to the no small disorder of my risible muscles. The one is a figure of Saint Charles Borromeo, (for whose merits and character you may consult my letters from Milan) who is represented upon his knees before the Virgin Mary, very piously and liberally presenting to her his *own heart*, which he holds in his *hand*.

The other is a representation of Saint Dennis, and his extraordinary *dying* miracle. This saint, who is the protector of France, is described as standing with his *head* in his *hand*, in a most firm and dignified posture. The painter has taken no postick license in this representation. He has conformed himself strictly to *Catholick* history, which states, that St. Dennis, having suffered martyrdom by decapitation, instantly arose, heroically seized his dissevered head, and walked upwards of a mile in that situation, to the utter confusion (*no doubt*) of his murderers.

But enough of these absurdities, it is more interesting to a man of reflection to learn the effects of such a system on manners and national character. To you it would be needless to remark, that the character of the Italians, and more es-

pecially of the *Romans*, is now in its Nadir. This opinion is too universally admitted to require proof; but general opinions are less interesting, than the facts and details upon which they are founded, especially when these can be obtained from persons, of whose veracity we can form a correct estimate. The country around Rome on every side is in the most deserted, forlorn, and miserable situation, of which the imagination can form any conception. Except where some rich nephew of a pope has erected a princely villa, the country perfectly responds to the description of the ruins of Palmyra or of Babylon, where, as travellers relate, you are compelled to take a guide and wander along the banks of the Euphrates, amidst tygers and other beasts of prey, to discover the spot, where the richest city in the world once reared its proud and lofty turrets.

You will naturally inquire, is the soil miserable? Far from it. Independent of the well known fact, that it was once the most populous and best cultivated country in the world, I assure you, that the soil appears to me to be at present very strong, and capable of producing most abundantly. Naturalists say, and I think the colour and nature of the soil fully support the opinion, that the soil in this part of Italy is the product of ancient volcanoes, or at least that, upon analysis, it is found to be the same with that in the vicinity of Naples, which is known to have been produced by volcanick eruptions. These soils, we know, are remarkable for their fertility, and the gardens and pleasure grounds of the ecclesiasticks and nobility around Rome are incontestable proofs of the excellence of this soil, even at the present day. The

climate also is the most favourable for successful culture. It lies in the happy medium between the cold northern and scorching tropical climates.

But this country is said to be unhealthy. This is but too true. No country is more ravaged by autumnal diseases, than the environs of Rome, and even the city itself is not exempt from this calamity: In the vicinity Famine and Misery, Disease and Death surround you; and in the city the pallid countenances of the inhabitants pronounce most eloquently the fatal insalubrity of the air. An official statement, which I have just seen, will give you some idea of this extraordinary city. There are about eighty parish churches; five thousand ecclesiasticks or religious devotees, of both sexes, in celibacy; twenty thousand more males than females; and, for a century past, one thousand more deaths, than births. Still this city was constantly on the increase, till the French revolutionized it and annihilated the ecclesiastical authority, when, losing its only support, it suddenly decreased twenty thousand.

The result of the foregoing statement appears to be, that Rome is a vast gulf, which annually brings within its vortex the population of its neighbours, who there fall victims to its climate. But to what causes are we to attribute this ill state of the atmosphere?—It is well known, that the city itself was healthy in the time of the ancient Romans, and the air of the Campania was more salubrious, than that of the city. Horace, Virgil, Pliny, Cicero, all praise the country air. They retired thither in summer to enjoy the cool shades and refreshing breezes. In autumn it would be, at this day, cer-

tain death. A Danish writer, who passed through this country last year, has just published an ingenious treatise on that part of Latium, which is the scene of the six last books of the *Æneid*. This writer attributes the mortality to the miserable state of the poor inhabitants of this part of Italy, who, after working in their enervating climate, are obliged to lie down, exposed to the chilling night air, without proper covering; and also to the destruction of the woods, which formerly covered a very considerable portion of the country. You know, it is the modern fashion to attribute great virtue to woods, particularly evergreens. They are said to imbibe the noxious particles of the atmosphere, and to emit oxygen, or the salubrious part. I should add, (as still *more important*) to the causes above cited, the superiour industry of the ancient Romans, who drained the meadows and morasses, with which the Campania abounds, but which are now suffered to exhale putrid miasmata to the destruction of every living animal.

But, it may be asked, why are the modern citizens of Rome so indolent? why have they not inherited the spirit and enterprize of their predecessors? The impediments are ecclesiastical and political. *Ecclesiastical*, because the numerous festivals, saints' days, perpetual masses, and pompous ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church distract the attention, consume the time of the devotees, and prevent that steady and serious attention to their temporal affairs, which the gospel not only permits, but enjoins. *Ecclesiastical*, because the example of two thousand monks, who make mendicancy a profession, who perform no manual labour, exercise no useful calling,

but who subsist and build magnificent churches and monasteries by alms, procured in forma pauperis, produces a very ill effect upon the common people, who do not deem it dishonourable to subsist on charity, when some of the orders, whom they venerate, obtain their support by such means. *Political*, because the lands in Italy are seldom or never owned by the cultivators, but are held in mortmain by the convents and other ecclesiastical establishments. They are therefore never sold, and seldom leased upon long leases or on favourable terms. The tenants in the Ecclesiastical State, where there are tenants, (for in many parts there are *none*) unable to acquire a title to the property they cultivate, and by their superstition rendered as dependent on the clergy, as the serfs in Poland on their lords, are idle, indifferent about their residence, and perpetually removing from place to place. The lands by these means are constantly impoverished, and are reduced to the miserable state, in which we now find them.

In addition to these obvious causes, the Papal government, weak and inefficient from its very constitution, always administered by old, and generally feeble superannuated men, aided by constitutional advisers of the same character, has never adopted and probably never will adopt vigorous steps to remedy these radical evils, and to give activity to commerce, without which agriculture must languish.

Having made these remarks on the indolence and wretched cultivation of the inhabitants of the Ecclesiastical State, let me briefly state a few facts, which elucidate and confirm these opinions. The Campania, instead of supplying Rome with provisions, as it for-

merly did, and as it is now abundantly capable of doing, actually subsists by bread, drawn from the capital; and it is unquestionable, that the few wretched villagers would perish, if this aid was withdrawn. With this assistance it is nevertheless true, that the inhabitants of the Campania often suffer, and frequently perish of hunger. It is also certain, that Rome itself is crowded with beggars, whose misery need not be represented by complaints, their countenances speak too powerful a language. Paris, London, Amsterdam, and Bordeaux united, cannot exhibit so many objects of real distress, as meet you in every direction at Rome. It is the most distressing picture I ever beheld. You are pursued at every corner by these wretched beings, and if you relieve the necessities of one, you are instantly thronged with twenty others, who will receive no refusal. *Importunity* would give you but a faint idea of their eagerness and entreaties, it amounts to *compulsion*. While the heart is thus constantly agitated by the picture of the most complete human misery, it is at the same moment roused to indignation by seeing dapper priests in stockings of bright purple, with hats ornamented with the same rich colour, tripping it lightly along from the shop of the friseur, unassailed by these poor wretches, who have solicited them too often in vain, or who find by experience that the language of nature pleads more powerfully with strangers, not hardened by familiarity with such scenes of horror. The rich and luxurious cardinal too, wrapped in his double folds of the richest purple, with princely magnificence, and followed by a long train of liveried domesticks, rolls along, unheeding

these objects of horror. You find the poor, at this inclement season, almost without clothes, and you are told, that death often frees them from this complicated distress, produced by famine and nakedness. You may judge what a man of any sensibility, accustomed to seeing the comfort and ease, enjoyed by the lower classes of the people in our country, must feel at such scenes. How can we restrain our indignation at the blindness or indifference of a government, which, neglecting the wise measures of political economy, upon which the prosperity of states depends, suffers the richest and finest portion of the globe not only to remain almost a desert, but to be the scene of the most complicated misery ?

What ! and are the men, who thus govern this fertile country, and who are thus arrayed in scarlet and fine linen, those who boast that they are the *only* legitimate representatives of the lowly Jesus, who endured persecution and poverty with meekness and humility, and who commanded his disciples especially to regard the *poor* ? Yes : And these very magistrates, conscious of this duty, have placed upon all their coins some good maxim, commemorative of the poor ; and yet in no part of the world do the poor receive so few of these *charitable coins*. Is it that they think it necessary to fulfil the words of our Saviour, " the poor you have always with you" ? But they appear to forget his denunciation against the hard-hearted, " I was naked, and ye clothed me not," &c. &c.

I ought in justice to say, that the Roman clergy reply to these objections, that in no city are there so many hospitals and publick provisions for the poor. But ex-

perience teaches us, that there are other institutions, much more useful than hospitals and alms-houses, those which *prevent poverty*, rather than those which *alleviate* it after it is produced by a *bad system of policy*.

The necessaries and even the luxuries of life are not dear at Rome. This will not appear strange to you, who have been accustomed to reflect profoundly on these subjects. Labour is always cheap in wretched countries. Luxuries, for the same reason, are always cheap, the demand being small ; and those, who labour for the *few*, are numerous. In flourishing countries, like Great Britain, luxuries are extremely dear. The common people in Italy subsist upon the *meanest* food, an apple, a pear, and a roasted chesnut, and, on gala days, a fried fish ! Behold the sum of Italian luxury ! ! *Bread and meat* are too extravagant for the labouring poor.

It is said, that the old practice of using the stiletto for private revenge is still prevalent among the common classes of people. While I was at Milan, one man stabbed and murdered his brother-in-law, and upon inquiry, I was told, that seven cases of that nature had taken place in the course of that month. Whether this is exaggerated or not, I will not undertake to say ; but it is certain, that the ancient, abominable privilege of sanctuary, or protection in the churches, palaces of cardinals, and of foreign ambassadors, still exists ; so that a man must be very stupid indeed, who cannot find an asylum even for *murder*. That this practice is as contrary to every principle of sound policy, as to justice, I think no man can deny. Every thing, which tends to facilitate impunity for crimes, must be

injurious to a state. What then must be the condition of a country, when these facilities are so multiplied that every man may, if he chooses, escape capital punishment?

I shall give you some further sketches of the Italian character and customs in a future letter.

Adieu.

For the Anthology.

MULTIPLICITY OF OUR LITERARY INSTITUTIONS.

NO. II.

AN attempt was made in a former paper to expose the evils, arising from our numerous literary institutions; and to show the cause, which so greatly multiplied them. A more arduous task remains, to point out some plan, which may correct those evils, without depriving any of the benefits, now enjoyed.

With the present disposition of our country, when exertions are constantly making to increase the numbers of our colleges, it would be the extreme of folly to think of diminishing that number. But although we cannot stop the torrent, which is ready to overwhelm the whole country; yet we may direct its course, and cause it to fertilise those fields, that it threatened with desolation. Upon the same principle we shall seek, from reform, a power to convert the numerous institutions, which threaten to overwhelm the literary world, into useful establishments for the promotion of science, and the welfare of the community. By this specious word, *reform*, democracy has undermined the most venerable fabrics of antiquity, and has, in a moment, levelled with the dust the labour of ages. Modern philosophy, supported by it, makes every thing subservient to the pretended useful, and affects to despise whatever does not promote the common arts of life, although

it may tend to its embellishment, or even to the improvement of the human mind. It imposes upon a large portion of the community the belief, that the lowest mechanic is a more useful citizen, than the most polished scholar; and it would relieve youth from the drudgery of learning the dead languages, that their time may be more usefully employed in mathematical studies. While therefore we join in praise of reform, it must be our duty to make public prejudices subservient to the public good.

In conformity with these opinions, we would banish classical literature from our minor universities; but we would transfer the funds from its support to the more ample maintenance of the present instructors, or to the foundation of new professorships, that, by lopping off the decaying branches, the tree might afford sufficient nourishment to the remaining boughs. We would even with some allow, that students might be admitted, without any previous qualification, or for any specific time, only barring them from any of the honours of the college; in order that every citizen, who was desirous of the acquisition, might obtain information upon any subject of science. Honours and degrees might be liberally distributed to

those, who had conformed to the rules of the institution, and who could stand the test of a rigid examination. We might thus form scientifick artisans; a class of citizens at present unknown in our country; for, although the inhabitants of New-England have been distinguished by their useful inventions in mechanicks, yet as the inventors have seldom had the advantages of education, they might, by the assistance of scientifick knowledge, have been led to the most important discoveries. We have no regularly educated engineers in the country. Our mathematical instrument-makers are men without science, and a large portion of our young men, who study nautical astronomy, obtain their information abroad. Our surveyors would be less often obliged to guess at the width of a river, if they had studied trigonometry; nor would our mill-wrights make so poor a use of the powers of nature, if they were familiar with mechanicks. Could a few intelligent farmers, dispersed thro' the country, be made acquainted with the nature and properties of different soils, with the principles of vegetation, and a knowledge of the rudiments of mineralogy, they might practically disseminate the improvements, already made in agriculture, and greatly add to our present knowledge by their own experience. To afford proper instruction to these classes of citizens would be to give tools to the industrious labourer; to furnish him, who had beaten his iron from the crude ore, with the means of smelting it, and of applying the pure metal to the purposes of life. We should furnish a compass to direct the unskilled projector, wasting his efforts in the boundless ocean of experiment. With such institu-

tions the country would assume a new appearance; the powers of nature would no longer be feebly directed, and the energies of man would be exerted on beneficial objects. The same power would support the noble oak or more useful corn, which produces the noisome weed or cumbrous hemlock.

Instead of founding new colleges and academies, publick and private liberality should be directed to institutions, already established; nor would vanity be less gratified by giving a name to a professorship, than it now is to a college or academy. It is not only necessary to increase the funds of the present instructors, but to introduce many useful branches of science, which are now no where taught in our country. Veterinary colleges are found both in England and France; but in this country no knowledge is to be acquired in that art, except what is picked up from jockies, the lowest of the community, or from our countrymen, who obtain their information from the position of the stars in the almanack. But it would lead us beyond our limits to point out the different objects, that should be taught at these institutions. Indeed should we exclude polite literature and the fine arts, almost every thing else, that can tend to the improvement of society, might be taught there with advantage.

These institutions, as they would tend to disseminate the useful arts, would probably be approved by the disciples of the modern fashionable philosophy; and, notwithstanding that these men forget "ut omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci;" notwithstanding they sacrifice the knowledge of our moral relations to the knowledge of squares and figures, the knowl-

edge of the human mind to the knowledge of mechanick arts and trades ; yet, as we not only allow the utility of their plans, but aid their advancement, they will not surely deny the claims of literature upon publick patronage. May we not therefore hope for the union of all parties in perfecting a single institution for polite literature and the higher branches of science ? To effect this grand object a radical reform would be necessary. The officers must be made independent of pecuniary concerns ; and the highest inducements must be held forth to men of talents to become instructors. The scholars must be made gentlemen, and treated as such, that they may consider those placed over them as friends, who have an interest in their welfare, and not treat them with the indignity and contempt, due only to petty suspicious tyrants. An increased fixed salary, or an additional stipend from those, who receive the benefit of instruction, which last, as it would serve as a stimulus to exertion, might be preferable, might afford a liberal compensation to the present instructors ; but, for the foundation of new professorships, an appeal must be made to publick and private liberality. If a number of poor lads of talents, selected from the different academies, were to be educated gratis, it would obviate all objection to the increase of expense. To render the duty of instruction less irksome, the students should not be admitted, till they are of an age to lay aside puerilities, and to duly appreciate the advantages afforded them. Higher qualifications should be required for admittance; that their time might not be wasted, as it now is, in obtaining, what ought to have been learnt at school. A strict examination should be passed, pre-

vious to advancing to a higher class, or to the attainment of a degree, that the idle and dissolute might be deterred by the fear of shame from entering those sacred walls. With such regulations, and with a liberal spirit, that would select for instructors men of talents, of whatever college or country, we might hope for a vigorous and flourishing university. The impurities, once removed from the fountain head, the stream would afford pure and delicious nourishment.

Our academies with a little reform might prepare youth for either of these institutions ; and the county treasury, without being much impoverished, might afford an increase of pay to the instructors. A law would be required to regulate the pay of the masters of common town-schools, in order to prevent ignorant school committees from engaging, as instructors, fellows still more ignorant than themselves, because they will serve cheap. We may be allowed to express a wish for the polite arts, although we have no hope for them. So little encouragement is given to them at present, that few can be expected to devote their time and talents to the acquisition of what, when obtained, will neither yield profit nor procure honours. Those few, whose taste and inclination are able to overcome these discouragements, forsake our rude regions to enjoy the invigorating patronage of more polished climes. But if we cannot expect the establishment of schools of painting or of sculpture, we might at least imitate a sister State ; and, by collecting models of those exquisite performances, which have excited the wonder and admiration of ages, create a taste in the publick for the fine arts.

For the Anthology.

TO THE AMERICAN TRAVELLER, ON HIS SECOND LETTER, PUBLISHED
IN THE ANTHOLOGY, vol. 4, page 71.

Boston, April 7th, 1807.

SIR,

YOUR second letter from Rome was mentioned to me a few days ago. I perused it, and think it my duty to trouble you with some reflections upon it. I am a Roman Catholick, and in points of doctrine perfectly agree with my brethren in Italy and elsewhere; but neither they nor I hold such a doctrine concerning indulgences and persecution, as you attribute to us in your letter.

Indulgences, you say, are permissions either general or more limited to commit offences, and are advertized for sale at Milan and in other cities. As a proof, you quote two inscriptions you read in the churches; in the following words:

Indulgenza plenaria tutti i giorni della settimana.

i. e. Plenary indulgence every day in the week.

Indulgentia plenarie et alie non plenarie quotidiana.

i. e. Plenary indulgences, and others not plenary, every day.

In these two inscriptions there is not a word about the sale of indulgences. I look in vain for *venales*, or another word of the same import, added to *indulgentie*.

Where did you read, sir, from whom did you ever hear, that indulgences are permissions to commit offences? Not, I am sure, in any catholick writer, not from any member of our church. Had you asked even the ignorant beggars you met with at Loretto and in other places, whether indulgences authorized them to get drunk,

steal, &c. &c. they would have looked at you with astonishment, and perhaps then mistaken a *christian* for an *infidel*.

But what is an indulgence, you will ask, what do you mean by it? It is merely, sir, a dispensation from the whole or part of the penance, which is or ought to be prescribed according to the canons of the church to those, who have confessed their sins. The grant of an indulgence is of no avail, except to those who sincerely repent, are firmly resolved to reform, have made an humble confession of their guilt, are reconciled to their enemies, have restored ill-gotten property, &c. &c. This, sir, is our doctrine, as you will find it in our writers of every tongue and nation. Saint Paul put in penance a man guilty of incest, and granted him an indulgence the year following. Saint Ambrose, at Milan, subjected the emperour Theodosius to publick penance, and six weeks after, on Christmas day, granted him a *plenary indulgence* and admitted him to communion.

We ourselves publish indulgences in our church in Boston; and if indulgences are *permissions to commit offences*, let our church be pulled down, and every Roman catholick banished from this hospitable land. But I dare say, sir, you do us the justice to believe, that instead of encouraging crimes, we do our best to prevent them, and with the blessing of God, not unsuccessfully. If I am not misinformed, the American Traveller's respectable name is inscribed a-

mong the benefactors of our church in this town; I acknowledge it with pleasure and gratitude, and feel happy in assuring you, that you have not contributed to the establishment of a school of corruption and idolatry.

Prayers for the dead are mentioned by Tertullianus, Saint Chrysostom, St. Augustine, and other fathers of the church, as an apostolick ordinance. The Jews pray for the dead now, and did certainly when the second book of Maccabees was written, i. e. 140 years before Jesus Christ. There is no harm in praying during nine days, that departed souls may be admitted into eternal rest; but to expect they will infallibly be released from purgatory by such prayers is contrary to the doctrine of the church.

This, however, and other practices, which you tell us are no better than *gross idolatry*, I shall not attempt to vindicate. Not that I agree with you on these points, but because my only object is to prove that Roman Catholics have nothing in their doctrine or religious practices contrary to the welfare of society, and do not deserve to be hated by their fellow citizens, as they would, in my opinion, richly deserve it, were they licensed to commit crimes, or animated with a spirit of cruelty and persecution. Permit me however to relate to you an anecdote which may possibly reconcile you a little to the honours shewn to religious monuments at Rome.

The celebrated French poet, the Abbé Delille, during his travels in Greece, wrote from Athens to a lady in Paris :*

“ In the yard of a private house I perceived a marble fountain; I

went in, and discovered by the fine carved work, it was the remnant of an ancient magnificent tomb. I prostrated myself, kissed the marble over and over again, and in the enthusiasm of my adoration I happened to break unawares the pitcher of a boy, who had come to fetch water.—I must give you another instance of my superstitious love for antiquity. When, with a heart flushed with hope and joy, I entered Athens, the smallest broken pieces of ancient ruins were sacred things in my eyes. I filled the pockets of my coat and waistcoat with all the little bits of carved marble I could find.”

Yourself, sir, who are a literary gentleman, and an admirer of learned antiquity, must have felt some degree of the same enthusiasm, when walking on the classical ground where Virgil and Horace sung, Cicero harangued, and Livy wrote; when beholding the monuments of ancient Rome. Is it then in regard to religious monuments alone that every kind of enthusiasm is to be reprobated?

I must however inform you that we Catholics are, like yourself, at perfect liberty either to reject or to admit the authenticity of the relics and monuments, which you mention. Had you applied to any of the cardinals, or other ecclesiasticks in Rome, they would have told you so. From them also you might have learned what is an *indulgence*. You would have found in them the politeness of gentlemen, and the amiable charity of real christians. None of them would have believed or called you an *infidel*, although they would have seen you were prejudiced against the religion they profess and teach with sincerity. They would have assured you, and shewn you by their conduct, that perse-

* Bayres de Jacques Delille. Tom. 1.

cution is not one of our tenets; neither can it be proved to be so by the two facts you allege, nor indeed by any others.

John Huss, sir, if alive, would not be tolerated in this free and liberal country. The errors he broached were proved by their effects, as well as by arguments, to be utterly inconsistent with the peace of society and the very existence of civil government. He caused violent seditions, in which he himself took an active part. A dreadful fanatical revolution ensued, which for many years deluged with blood the plains of Bohemia. In the very beginning of it the mayor of Prague, magistrates, priests were murdered.

As for the massacre of St. Bartholomew's, I abhor as cordially as you do yourself the horrid deed of blood and perfidy.

*Excidat illa dies vivo, nec pectora credant
Secula.*

But, I tell you with a late writer,* "Let the blame fall, where it is due, on the black vengeance of the unrelenting Charles IX. and on the remorseless ambition of the unprincipled Catherine of Medicis. They attempted to justify themselves by pretending, that the Huguenots were on the point of executing a plot to destroy them and to overthrow the government. This very calumny, which the king and queen invented to excuse their barbarity, is a sufficient proof they did not conceive it lawful to commit such crimes to serve their religion, for which indeed neither of them felt much zeal. As this savage villainy was contrived without the participation of the French clergy, so they were the most forward at the time to oppose its completion, and have ever

* Letters to a Prebendary. London 1800.

since been the most warm in reprobating it. It is particularly recorded of Hennuyer, bishop of Lizeux, that he opposed to the utmost of his power the execution of the king's order for the murder of the protestants in his diocese. He answered the governour of the province, who communicated the bloody order to him: *It is the duty of the good shepherd to lay down his life for his sheep. These are my sheep, though they have gone astray, and I am resolved to run all hazards in protecting them.* The praise of this worthy and humane prelate is to this day in all our churches. Persecution then is no part of our doctrine, and I know it has no place in the creed of our protestant brethren. Yet have not catholicks been persecuted by protestants?

Should you have any doubts on the subject, read, I beg of you, sir, the eloquent speech of the immortal Edmund Burke to the electors of Bristol in 1780. I can furnish you with authentick historical documents on this subject, and am not afraid to leave the decision to yourself. To your own candour I appeal now, sir, and wish to have you judge, whether, in the United States, Roman Catholicks can with any propriety or justice be reproached with being persecutors?

Your venerable forefathers, sir, fled, you well know, not from a *hopish*, but from a *protestant* persecution. They landed here, and were at full liberty to shew, what was the spirit of their sect. Was it toleration? Many other virtues they possessed, no doubt; but to this they were utter strangers.

Lord Baltimore, himself a Roman catholick, as well as his companions, fled from the same persecution. See them establishing themselves in Maryland: they

will no doubt give strong specimens of *popish* bigotry and persecution. They opened an asylum, afforded protection, and granted the same civil privileges to christians of every denomination.

"Extraordinary scenes, says Doctor Morse in his geography, were, at this time, (an. 1656) exhibited on the colonial theatres. In Massachusetts, the Congregationalists, intolerant towards the Episcopalians and every other sect; the Episcopal church retaliating upon them in Virginia; and the Roman Catholics of Maryland tolerating and protecting all. Virginia passed severe laws against the Puritans, whose ministers were not suffered to preach. This occasioned numbers to emigrate to Maryland."

Here are my evidences. Judge of them yourself, sir, and give

your decision. I am willing to abide by it.

I know, sir, that the children here have not inherited the persecuting spirit of their fathers. Our church in this town is a standing monument of their liberal and friendly dispositions; and the one who addresses you is proud of the friendship, and grateful for the polite attentions of several of them.

We Roman Catholics cherish a sincere affection for this country and its inhabitants; we abhor the idea of *being licensed* to commit crimes; and instead of hating our brethren on account of their religious opinions, we wish only to be able to do them every service in our power.

With respect I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient

humble servant,

A ROMAN CATHOLICK.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 26.

Ἐστὶ δάρκαι τῆνι, ἐνὶ βόσκει κηλίωσσι,

Ἐστὶ μίλας κισσός, ἐντ' ἀμπελῶν ἢ γλυκίωνα. THEOC. Id. XI. v. 45.

GRASSHOPPERS.

THE term, *Gryllus*, comprehends all that countless tribe of little animals, that come under the names of locusts, grasshoppers, and crickets. But it is the *gryllus campestris*, or cricket, to whom we are indebted for so many beautiful poems, and, in particular, Anacreon's charming little ode, *Ἐστὶ τῆνις*. This merry little creature, although not much respected in modern days, was formerly among the happiest of insects, and held in much higher estimation, than our canary birds at present: and it is certain, the ladies of Teos would not have exchanged their crickets with our modern ladies

for all their lap-dogs, squirrels, monkies, and paroquets.

That the cricket was in high esteem among the ancients for its musick, we have abundant testimony. Theocritus, in his first Idyl:

..... τῆνις ἔστι νότα γρηλίωσιν ἄδεις.

Thy strains are sweeter than the cricket's song.

There is an epigram of Antipater's, in the Anthol. Gr., containing a still higher compliment to these little musicians;

Ἄρμυ τῆνιγας μινύσαι δρόσος, ἀλλὰ σὺν ἴσιν
Ἄδεις κύκων ἕσι γρηλίωστροι.

Inspir'd by dew, the crickets chirp
 their strain,
 And rival swans shall raise their
 notes in vain.

But the ancients were not content with this; they considered them inspired by the Muses, and, that these divinities had taught them the art of subsisting without eating and drinking. What a happy inspiration this would be for many, who pursue the same profession as the crickets! Such favourites were grasshoppers among the ancients; but, like all other favourites, they were envied and persecuted. Some epicure of old, not content with the tongues of nightingales, made an unwarrantable and gluttonous war on the legs of grasshoppers; and to the disgrace of human nature be it spoken, this *Gryllicide* was followed by a long train of gluttons, who pursued these miserable creatures to their very holes; and harassed them so, that the rhetorician, Ælian, at length, rose in their defence. "They are ignorant," said he, speaking of these persecutors, "how much they offend the Muses, the daughters of Jupiter." But Ælian was certainly the junior counsel in this case; and if the reader will look at the Anthol. Gr. lib. I. cap. 33., he will have the pleasure of perusing some elegant lines, relating to the scandalous practice, above mentioned, which lines were spoken by a grasshopper, in propria persona; and, it is evident, a grasshopper of very considerable parts. However, these pleadings worked nothing in favour of the plaintiffs, and grasshoppers' legs were in as much request as ever. They were therefore reduced to this alternative, either to resign their legs, without murmuring, or to conceal them day-long in their holes: they very

reasonably adopted the latter, and have persevered in this truly laudable determination, from the time of Ælian to the present moment.

—
 ENIGMAS.

The subject of an enigma should be as simple as possible, nor should the form be complicated by mean allusions, nor extended to an unreasonable length. The famous Ælia Lælia Crispis, which has appeared in a former number of the Anthology, is in direct violation of the first rules of the Enigma. Above fifty learned men have puzzled their heads in solving this wonderful inscription, and probably, above fifty more will puzzle their heads in solving the solutions of the first fifty, and so on, ad infinitum. That fifty men, of any tolerable understanding, should give, individually a different solution of the same enigma, is an absolute proof, either that the enigma is complicated to such a degree, that it cannot be explained, and is of course absurd, or, that the parts, whereof the subject is composed, are so loosely connected, that it may mean almost any thing, and that it is of course ridiculous. Which of the two is the case, I leave to be determined by any fifty Germans, who may have leisure and patience for the investigation.

Among the Greeks, we have many instances of enigmatical composition. Cleobulus, one of the seven wise men of Greece, is said to have written enigmatical verses, to the amount of 3000. Cleobulina, daughter of the above, composed a great variety of intricate questions of this kind, of which, however, few are at present to be found. One of them will afford the best example of those, that now remain; it runs thus: "A

father had twelve children, and these twelve children had, each, 30 white sons, and 30 black daughters; who are immortal, though they die every day." Olympius Diotimus, Clearchus, Theodectes, Dromeas Cous, Aristonymus Psilocitharistas, and Cleon, are numbered among the Greek writers of ænigmas. But, among the Latins, examples of this species of writing are extremely rare. Apuleius relates, *Apolog.* page 276, that he wrote a book "*Ludicorum et Gryphorum*;" but this book is unknown to us. There is extant a poem, by Ausonius, called, "*Gryphus Ternarii Numeri*," which may come under this head. The best example, however, among the Latins, is that collection of ænigmas, written by Calius Symposius. These have passed through a variety of editions, and have been translated into Greek, and modern Italian. It may not be improper to give one or two instances of these ænigmas. The first is on the Graphium or Stylus of the ancients :

De summo planus, sed non ego planus
in imo ;
Versor utrinque manu, diversa et mu-
nera fungor ;
Altera pars revocat, quidquid pars al-
tera fecit.
A diff'rent form my two extremes
could show,
Tho' flat my head, not flat my form be-
low ;
Turn'd by the hand, a diff'rent use they
bore,
And that revok'd what this perform'd
before.

The second is the Arundo :

Dulcis amica Dei, ripis vicina profundis,
Suave canens Musis : nigro perfusa
colore,
Nuntia sum linguæ, digitis stipata ma-
gistri.
Pan's darling friend, on rivers' banks I
spring,
And ever sweetly to the Muscs sing :
I too can speak when fill'd with sable dye,

And round me thick my master's fin-
gers lie.

There were also many writers of ænigmas in the barbarous ages, and we are told, that Aldhelm, bishop of Sherborne, wrote a thousand verses of ænigmas : but Aldhelm had better have minded his bishoprick, for his compositions, in this way, are so far inferior to those of Symposius, whom he proposed as his model, that the learned and accurate Pitheus has judged them not worthy an edition.

—
BURTON vs. STERNE.

When we admire the pages of Shandy, we must, for the future, remember the pages of Burton. Few authors have been more unfortunate in their illustrators, than our friend, Yorick. Dr. Ferriar has exposed the numerous plagiarisms of the facetious Sterne, and restored to the author of the *Anatomy of Melancholy* all that the injustice of Yorick had stolen from him.

At the time of writing *Tristram Shandy*, the *Anatomy of Melancholy* was by no means generally known. Few repaired to it, except those who were prompted by felonious intentions, and among those none were more active than young *Tristram*. The force of habit is incalculable, and *Tristram* committed these larcenies to the day of his death.

—
THE HORSE.

Shakespeare's description of this noble animal is so full and perfect, that I cannot resist transcribing it. The Latin and Greek poets : have each celebrated the Horse, in strains familiar to every man of reading.

Round hoof'd, short jointed, fetlocks
shag and long,
Broad breast, full eyes, small head and
nostril wide,

High crest, short ears, strait legs, and
 passing strong;
 Thin mane, thick tail, broad buttock,
 tender hide. V. & A.

CARDS.

Is it not surprising that men of sense should condescend to join in this silly custom, which was originally invented to supply its deficiency? But such is the fatality! Imperfections give rise to fashions, and are followed by those, who do not labour under the defects, which introduced them.— Nor is a hoop the only instance of a fashion, invented by those, who found their account in it; and afterwards countenanced by others, to whose figure it was prejudicial. How can men, who value themselves upon their reflections, give encouragement to a practice, which puts an end to thinking? Cards, if one may judge from their appearance, seem invented for the use of children; and, among the toys of infancy, the bells, the whistle, and the rattle deserved their share of commendation.— By degrees those, who came nearest children in understanding and want of ideas, grew enamoured of the use of them, as a suitable entertainment; others also, pleased to reflect on the innocent part of their lives, had recourse to this amusement, as what recalled it to their minds.

But where will you find a man, who proposes to himself dignity of character, who views an inducement to this kind of game? It is difficult to determine, whether it appear more odious among sharpers, or more ridiculous among persons of character. Persons of ability are capable of furnishing a much more agreeable entertainment. Whenever I am offered cards therefore, I shall esteem it as the opinion of the host, that I have neither sense nor fancy. And yet this is a melancholy reflection, since there seldom is a "party" in this exquisitely refined metropolis without cards.

* * * * *

Upon reflection, I think there is much utility in cards. I would not have them renounced by "parties." I can recollect many an evening, which would have gone off heavily indeed, without the assistance of kings, queens, and knaves, &c. After having been wearied two or three hours by stories of puppies, and parrots, and turned-off servants, sicknesses, recoveries, (on which, to make a legal pun, I would readily have imposed a fine,) I have gladly taken refuge at the card-table, and derived no small comparative satisfaction from the odd trick.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 20.

Virtus repulsæ nescia sordida
 Intaminatis fulget honoribus,
 Nec sumit aut ponit secures
 Arbitrio popularis aure.

HORACE.

With stainless lustre virtue shines,
 A base repulsæ nor knows nor fears,
 Nor claims her honours nor declines
 As the light air of crowds uncertain veers—

FRANCIS.

THERE are few words in our language more improperly used than principle, although none is more fixed in its definition. Those,
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who act right, or rather those, who do not act wrong, are supposed to possess sound principles, and are therefore deemed good men. But, however heterodox it may seem, we must affirm, that a man is not to be judged by his actions alone. Many, without any temptation to vice, act well all their lives, and pass for virtuous citizens; while others, with stronger powers and purer hearts, though they may withstand allurements too powerful for the former, yet yield in some weak moment and receive a stigma to last forever on their character. In examining into the conduct of mankind it is astonishing to observe the almost total want of principle in the world. Education, habit, fashion, fear of shame, feeling, and motives of the like nature, prevent men from deviating far from what is considered the right path; but, let the same motives lead into the path of error, let interest and fashion tempt from the road of virtue, and her ways will be deserted; men will hesitate in their conduct; they will either want principle to tell them what is right, or firmness to act according to that knowledge.

Leontes was educated for the mercantile profession; in the usual manner from the nursery he passed first to school, then to an academy, and from thence proceeded to the counting-house, and, having gone through the regular routine in that service, was so fortunate as to procure the office of supercargo of a ship bound to France; a situation he had long desired, that, whilst obtaining commercial information, and making arrangements in business, he might at the same time gratify his curiosity by beholding the collected wonders of the ancient and modern world. Educated strictly, and in the con-

stant habit of attending public worship and of private devotion, he was greatly shocked at the neglect of the sabbath in France. He found the churches deserted, but the places of amusement thronged; and determined to quit this scene of irreligion, as soon as his business would allow. But, ere this period arrived, he had learnt to consider these amusements as innocent, and, thinking himself freed from the shackles of superstition, he heard with indifference religion and moral institutions scoffed at and derided. To be considered as a wit and philosopher he had only to learn the common arguments against religion, and to doubt of the immortality of the soul. The task was easy and the scholar apt. Instead of finding men honest, as his inexperience had led him to expect, he found himself defrauded by all with whom he had dealings; and, to put himself upon an equality with them, he conceived himself obliged to cheat them in return. Fashion easily persuaded him to listen to the syren song of female beauty and depravity, and plunged him into the depths of dissipation. Thus, before he had been six months in the country, he had wholly thrown aside the sober manners of New-England, and adopted in their stead all the fashionable vices of corrupted France. Yet was Leontes not wholly depraved. Obligated by his circumstances to revisit his native shores, he left his vices behind, because society would not tolerate them here. Engaged in business, his reputation now stands fair upon the exchange; and with a young wife, greatly attached to him, he has few temptations to wander from conjugal fidelity. Acquainted with the parson of his parish, he thinks

himself obliged to repay his visits at the church ; and the variety relieves the ennui of the dull Sunday. Feeling makes him assist the indigent, that accident throws in his way ; and vanity makes him liberal. Altogether no man in the community bears a fairer character ; yet is Leontes the same. Without principle, his actions flow from the circumstances, in which he is placed. In India he might have been a Brahmin, in Arabia a robber, in Spain a monk, in France a modern philosopher, and here a man of business. Such men usually pass through life with reputation, frequently with having committed but few misdeeds, and with having performed some good actions ; but, as they are guided by no principle, they can never command our esteem or confidence. We may like them as acquaintance, but can never regard them as friends, or trust our life or fortune in their hands.

Whatever opinion is formed of the above character, it is necessary carefully to distinguish it from the man of bad principles, who has no tie but interest or want of power to prevent his overturning society, and reducing the world to its original barbarity. Temporary interest, the only check to his committing the worst of crimes, a thousand accidents may remove ; and what shall then prevent his reaching the lowest degree of depravity, and perpetrating crimes, which would make us shrink from the name of man, that we might disclaim kindred with the monster ?

The world confounds these characters, so perfectly distinct ; and to say, that a man has no principles is supposed synonymous to saying, that his principles are bad. But the difference is really great ; the former will never act wrong, ex-

cept when sanctioned by custom, or urged by an apparent necessity. The latter will never act right, except when he believes it for his interest. The one, though you can place but little confidence in him, yet has many restraints upon his conduct ; the other you are never sure is not plotting to injure you. Happily there are but few wholly depraved, few who have entirely silenced the voice of conscience, or who have no belief in future rewards and punishments ; but multitudes act all their lives, without reflecting upon the moral rectitude of any one action. The far greater part of mankind, though in some cases, in which they are little inclined to err, have a strong sense of right and wrong ; yet in others will suffer interest to blind their judgment. The necessity of principle is generally allowed ; yet are there few, who will not occasionally bend their principles to circumstances, or, by some sophistry, colour bad actions with a semblance of right ; or will intend to make atonement for their vices by the more rigid performance of other duties, as the knights of old satisfied their conscience by dedicating to the church a portion of the spoils, they had taken from the defenceless and the poor.

Society sanctions many things not correct ; and violations of truth are frequently considered justifiable. The outworks of principle are every where invaded with impunity, for she is thought secure, while the citadel is safe. But society suffers more from these indirect attacks, than from any open violation of principle. Some men, in other respects honest, will not scruple to sell a defective horse as sound, provided it can be done without a direct falsehood. Others will overreach in a bargain ; and

I have heard a countryman praise another man, because he cheated fairly. One conceals a sum of money he had found, and quiets his conscience, as he is ignorant of the owner, by liberality to the poor. Another justifies his libertinism by saying, that he only injures himself. But it is principle alone that can protect us against the allurements of vice and the storms of interest and passion.

Principle should be firm, like the rock, but not so frowning and forbidding in its aspect. It should, in things indifferent, yield to the opinion of the world, while it carefully guards against even the semblance of wrong; like the elm, it should yield the smaller branches to the gentlest breeze, while itself remains firm against every tempest.

Too great a love of principle, it is true, hardens the character, destroys the amiable feelings, and produces a harsh stiffness. Such was the case with Menander. Educated in the rigid rule of right, he was taught never to act from feeling; but to weigh the moral

rectitude of every action. At the age of fifteen he had completely banished feeling from his breast, and would view with indifference, or rather with abhorrence, those unfortunate wretches, whose miseries proceeded from their own vices. His morals were rigidly correct, he gave large sums to the indigent, and discouraged immorality and vice, both by precept and example; yet, as he spoke without feelings for the infirmities of man; as he gave, without sympathising with the sufferers, that he relieved; as he was stern to the poor, that subsisted on his bounty; and as he was a severe censor of every slight indiscretion; though all acknowledged his goodness, yet he never had a friend. His presence cast a gloom upon society, for every sportive thought and action was to be reduced to the rigid rule of right. At his death the wretches, whom he had relieved, regretted that bounty they no longer felt; but not a tear was shed on his grave for the loss of Menander.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

For the Anthology.

NOX erat illunis, cæliq; ex culmine fluxit
 Nix, Boreasq; ferox turbine latè ruit.
 Fortuna quum, infelix, callisq; ignara patentis,
 Infantem Amplectens tristia verba dedit.
 "Sævus erat genitor, qui me charâ sede repulit;"
 Sic venti, qui plent pectora mæsta gelu.
 Sævior is longè qui uxoris brachia liquit;
 "Hei mihi, pro dira pellice blanda fui"
 Tu puer infelix fove membra in pectore tris
 Nam satis est fluvii, grandinis atq; feræ.
 Frigore vè! torpent concreto farpula membra;
 Oh! renovent lacrymæ quæ matris ora rigant.
 Infelix! infans obiit; genitorq; recusat
 Et vir sæt sævus decevuisse torum.
 Dein cecidit! plorans ex imo corde dolorem
 Fatalisq; cito corpora languor habet
 Atq; infausti juxta infantis membra ponebat.
 Atq; cubans obiit, (sic sacra Musa canit.)

For the Anthology.

The following ode is inserted among the *Poet. Lat. Min.*, and was written by Ausonius, the poet of Bourdeaux. Ausonius flourished in the fourth century, and his writings have long been deservedly admired. There have been several editions of his works, among which that of Tollius, 8vo. 1671, and that of Jaubert, with a French translation, 4 vols. 12mo. 1769, may be selected as the best.

AUSONII

CARMEN MATUTINUM,

AD

PARMENONEM SERVUM.

MANE jam clarum reserat fenestras ;
Jam strepit nidis vigilax hirundo ;
Tu, velut primam mediamque noctem,
Parmeno, dormis.

Dormiunt glires hiemem perennem,
Sed cibo parcunt ; tibi causa somni,
Multa quod potas, nimiaque tendis
Mole saginam.

Inde nes flexas sonus intrat aures ;
Et locum mentis sopor altus urget :
Nec coruscantis oculos incessant
Fulgura lucis.

Annua quondam juveni quietem,
Noctis et lucis victibus manentem,
Fabulæ fingunt, cui Luna somnos
Continuarit.

Surge nugator, lacerande virgis.
Serge ! ne longus tibi somnus, unde
Non times, detur ; rape membra molli,
Parmeno, lecto.

Fors et hæc somnum tibi cantilena
Sapphico quædet modulata versu.
Lesbiz depelle modum quietis,
Acer iambe.

.....

TRANSLATION.

.....

THE MORNING SONG

OF

AUSONIUS,

TO PARMENO, HIS SLAVE.

NOW the bright morning enters at the window ;
Now the gay swallow twitters on the house-top ;
Parmeno, still you snore upon your couch, as
If it were midnight.

What, sir, though dormice sleep throughout the winter ?
 They are no gluttons ; you are ever tipsy,
 You, in the pantry cram yourself with meat-pies,
 Gellies, and custards.

Thus, at your ears no sound can ever enter ;
 Thus, you are sleeping, when you should be thinking ;
 Thus too, your eyes, so fasten'd up in slumber,
 Heed not the daylight.

Once, it is said, Diana took a notion
 Over a youth to pour a soporifick,
 And the poor boy, according to the fable,
 Slumber'd *per ævum*.

Get up, you sluggard, lest you sleep forever ;
 Up ! with your wool-sack, none of your complaining ;
 Up ! or I soon will ply a bunch of nettles
Posteriori.

So then it seems my softly flowing sapphicks
 Serve but to sooth you, sirrah, while you slumber !
 Soon I'll disturb the quiet of your sleep, with
 Thund'ring Iambicks !

L. M. SARGENT.

SELECTED.

We here insert the celebrated ballad of GAFFER GRAY for those of our readers, who do not possess the valuable work, in which it first appeared.

GAFFER GRAY.

OH why dost thou shiver and shake, Gaffer Gray,
 And what makes thy nose look so blue ?
 ' The weather is cold, and I'm grown very old,
 And my doublet is not very new,
 Well-a-day !'

Go, line your old doublet with ale, Gaffer Gray,
 And then, cheer thy heart with a glass.
 ' Nay, but credit I've none, and my money's all gone ;
 Then say, how may this come to pass !'

Go, hie to yon house on the brow, Gaffer Gray,
 And knock at the jolly priest's door.
 ' The priest often preaches against worldly riches,
 But ne'er gives a mite to the poor.'

The lawyer lives under the hill, Gaffer Gray,
 Warmly fenc'd both in back and in front.
 ' He's fasten'd his locks, and has threaten'd the stocks,
 If he ever more see me in want.'

The squire has fat beeves and brown ale, Gaffer Gray,
 And the season will welcome you there.
 ' His beeves, and his beer, and his merry new year
 Are all for the the flush'd and the fair.'

My keg is but low, I confess, Gaffer Gray ;
 What then—while it lasts, we will live.
 'Tis the poor man alone, when he hears the poor man,
 Of his morsel a morsel will give,
 Well-a-day !

THE BOSTON REVIEW

FOR

APRIL, 1807.

*Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quæ commutanda, quæ
eximenda, arbitraver. Nam ego dicere vero assuevi. Neque ulli patientius re-
prehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.*

ARTICLE 10.

Plain discourses on the laws and properties of matter; containing the elements or principles of modern chemistry, with more particular details of those practical parts of the science, most interesting to mankind, and connected with domestick affairs. Addressed to all American promoters of useful knowledge. By Thomas Ewell, M. D. one of the surgeons of the United States navy.— 1 vol. 8vo. Brisban & Brannan. New-York. 1806.

[Continued from page 154.]

WE are now to consider the more immediate object of this work, the application of the principles of chemistry to domestick affairs, and to those arts, which are intimately connected with the ease and comfort of society. It is obvious, that the author aims, not only at giving a general view of the objects of this science, but at detailing with minuteness their various habitudes and relations, which have given birth to the immense body of chemical arts. We do not think it impossible to combine these two objects in one work, but we are confident that the plan is too extensive to be completed by the labours of one man. Fourcroy has, perhaps, advanced further in

the execution of this design, than any other writer on the science. If we view his work as a general system of chemistry, it is admirable; but, when examined as a body, or collection of the processes or operations of the chemical arts, we find it imperfect. If therefore this able chemist was unsuccessful in eleven volumes, what are we to expect from Dr. Ewell in one? In proportion as our knowledge of this science is extended, and our acquaintance with the properties and relations of bodies enlarged, the arts, which are dependent on its principles, become more numerous and their processes more refined. When the philosophers and the learned of Europe were first engaged in the investigation of certain effects, which resulted from the application of the laws of chemistry to the various substances, by which they were surrounded, they found it necessary to their future progress, that these unconnected facts should be collected into one body; they established data and drew conclusions, and thus, by the acquisition of principles, they were enabled to form a regular and dependent system. But modern chemists, while employed in giving a general view of their science, have neglected to

fill up its outlines and to finish those minute parts, which complete the system and give effect to the whole work. We have long been convinced, that, in future, chemists are to anticipate success in their pursuits only by a division of labour. By knowing what has already been done, it is easy to perceive what remains to be effected, and by concentrating their powers on individual objects, they will soon acquire an intimate knowledge of their properties and relations. The error of Dr. Ewell consists in bringing together in one view, and endeavouring to describe in the same work, two subjects of such immense extent. The title of his work led us to infer, that he had treated his subject in a desultory and unconnected manner. The term 'discourses' implies no necessary connection, no dependent series, and it was therefore in his power to have taken up any department of this science and treated of it in a way, which would have secured reputation to himself and information to his readers. Had the author confined his studies to a branch of chemistry, we are confident he would have been successful. In fact we anticipated with much satisfaction the perusal of his discourses on the arts, which are included in the subjects of mineralogy, and of the chemistry of animal and vegetable substances. These are of immense importance to society, and if minutely detailed would require volumes for their description; yet, except in one instance, we believe they have never been made the subjects of a particular treatise, nor even been collected into one work, where they have obtained more than ordinary notice. The author however by grasping at too much has failed in

all; and therefore, though he has introduced as much information on the subjects, of which he treats, as the extent of his work will allow, he has merely given us that kind of general knowledge, that outline of things, which is to be found in every systematick work on chemistry. In proof of our observation we have only to notice the descriptions of any of those arts, which we find scattered about the work. Let us take the formation of pottery ware and porcelain. The account of these manufactures is extracted almost verbatim from Accum's chemistry, a work professedly devoted to a general view of the science. His descriptions therefore, though sufficiently minute for a general scholar, must be unsatisfactory to the practical chemist. The author has neglected to name all the ingredients, or to mention their proportions. We hear nothing of the furnace nor of the technical terms, which are applied to the ware in the different stages or degrees of its formation. He has totally omitted the porcelain of Reaumur, and we look in vain for those necessary cautions on the application of the degrees of heat, on which depend not only the perfection of the ware, but the health of those, by whom it is used. It is well known, that the oxides of lead form a principal ingredient in the modern glazings, which are applied to the ware and to porcelain, when they have acquired that state, which artists designate by the term *biscuit*. Now if the heat be not properly regulated or the glazing properly applied, their particles become imperfectly vitrified, or simply agglutinated. 'This glaze,' says M. Poideyin, 'is capable of being divided and taken up by all liquids, with which

it may come in contact.' The *underbaking* is one of the most common and the most dangerous accidents, to which pottery ware is exposed. The oxides of lead are gradually taken into the body, where by slow, but progressive degrees, they gradually produce a long and generally incurable series of painful diseases. These facts are interesting and ought to be made publick, but it is incompatible with a system of chemistry to enter into the description of these minutæ, without being extended to a bulk, which few would wish to purchase or peruse. This opinion begins to prevail in Europe, and there are chemists, both in France and England, who have deviated from the common routine of system-making, and have concentrated their powers on those practical parts, on a knowledge of which depends, in a great degree, the ease and comfort of social life. In fact, the defect of this work arises from a neglect of noticing the proportions, and a want of minuteness in describing the processes of those arts, which result from the application of the principles of chemistry to individual objects.

Upon the whole, that portion of the work, which discourses on the chemistry of animal and vegetable substances, we think the best written, and perhaps the most valuable of the whole book. While speaking of these, the author takes the opportunity of again introducing his theory of affinities, which we considered, while reviewing the subject of heat; but as we do not profess to understand this hypothesis, notwithstanding the assertion of Dr. Ewell, that it will be comprehended by all, who are 'capable of forming a distinct idea,' and that it has been approbated by many of the faculty, particularly by the

'learned Dr. Hosack, an eminent practitioner in the city of New-York,' we shall once more take the liberty of referring its merits to the decision of his readers. We cannot refrain, however, from acknowledging our obligations to Dr. Ewell for a very comfortable 'reflection,' which he has introduced into his work, while on the subject of *adipocire*, or that substance resembling spermaceti, into which animal bodies are converted in particular circumstances. After mentioning the attempts, which have been made in various manufactories in England to use it as a substitute for tallow, he observes, that 'the product is found to have a disagreeable odour, which no doubt might be corrected; and then persons dying may have the pleasing reflection, that their bodies, instead of affording food for disgusting insects, will be exhausted in furnishing light for the illumination of elegant rooms and other useful purposes.'! On the milk of various animals the author is diffuse. He compares them with each other; he details with accuracy their constituent parts, their properties, and the different proportions, in which they are combined. While on this subject, he is naturally led to speak of the formation of butter and cheese. We do not profess to know much on these domestick topicks, but we assure the author, that the reputation of his work is not much increased by the insertion of a receipt for making Stilton cheese, on newspaper authority. The discourse on manures and the food of plants is written with accuracy and judgment; and notwithstanding the liberal use, which the author has made of the ideas and language of Thompson, he undoubtedly deserves much praise for the manner in which he has stated the most important

facts and experiments known on this subject, and the interesting deductions that naturally flow from their discovery. If the observation of Dr. Ewell, which proves that pit coal, when reduced to an impalpable powder, is a very excellent manure, be found correct by the experience of others, the inhabitants of his own state will have reason to view with gratitude the author of this discovery.

We have at length arrived to the 'concluding address,' which we have kept in reserve as a *petit morceau* of criticism for the lovers of novelty. This non-descript production, it seems, 'was delivered before the Philadelphia Medical Society, at their session in 1804, for the privilege of being an honorary member of that respectable association,' and equally disgraces the author, by whom it was composed, and the society, by whom it was tolerated. We confess, we think the title dearly bought, for the author appears to have lost his wits in the purchase. With a degree of candour, however, which is not always attached to the writings of learned men, Dr. Ewell acknowledges, that

'A part of the doctrine here advanced was first introduced into the society by the accomplished and not less learned than eloquent Dr. N. T. Chapman, formerly of Virginia, at present one of the practitioners of physick of Philadelphia. The doctrine, which it endeavours to support, is, that animal life is not in consequence of the agency of an intelligent spirit, called *vis medicatrix*, which regulates the motions of the body, as supposed by one set of philosophers; nor in consequence of its being the effect of stimuli acting on the excitability of the system, as taught by their successors; but that it (life) is in consequence of the affinities of matter exercised on each other when the necessary states are created.'

We have before heard that some other great men of Philadelphia had advanced opinions in favour of

this theory, and had considered man merely as a compound of oxygen, azote, and some other gases, from whose actions on each other resulted that catenation of motions, termed life; but we were inclined to attribute these visionary ideas to a momentary enthusiasm, excited by some unexpected effects, resulting from chemical action, when, like the Pythia of Delphi, they uttered in their 'moody madness' a mass of incoherent expressions, which their obsequious pupils fashioned into a doctrine of animal life. To enter on a discussion of what Dr. Ewell calls doctrine in this address, would be an insult to our readers, by inferring, that their minds might possibly be warped by the warmth of argument, or biased by the weight of intellect, which he discovers in its composition. The only passage, which affords even the shadow of an argument in favour of his hypothesis, is that in which he quotes the experiments of count Rumford and the abbé Spallanzani, and mentions the presence of animals in various parts of the body, whose production has never been satisfactorily explained. With this beggarly account of reasons, he imagines he has demonstrated what has escaped the penetrating genius of the whole sect of materialists from Democritus to Darwin. But we are convinced that those, who have withstood the formidable arguments of Hartley and of Priestley, are in no danger of being prostrated by the *vox et preterea nihil* of Dr. Ewell. We might considerably extend the limits of our review by extracting the many sublime passages, which are disseminated through this address, but we shall reserve only the last paragraph, as a fair specimen of the style and sentiment of the author.

'When indulging our imagination, and viewing what chemistry was a few years back and what it now is, where can we set bounds to our expectations! You know that the science is but lately freed from the fetters of Egyptian hieroglyphicks; its embryo is just emerging from the troublesome trammels of alchemy. The conductors, now cherished in the bosom of nature; almost omnipotent, because united will not be retarded in their progress. A knowledge of all the laws of matter may yet be acquired, and then we will find persons vying with nature in forming the most valuable productions. Nor will active and revolutionary man rest with such success! Growing tired with the tardy operations of nature, he will seize at once her agents, and will in a few moments combine them, thereby forming all the articles used as the necessities and luxuries of life. Perhaps too, he may progress still more. By a zealous industry and cordial union, possibly he may be able, by his art, to prepare the state, to ascertain the constituents, to apply them together, so as to *crystallize* a man! All other collateral branches will proportionally improve. And when a man is thus formed, the artist may be able to rob the heavens of their electricity; to convey it at pleasure through our immense beds of carbon, converting them into diamonds, and with these erect a refulgent mansion for his earthly residence.'!

On the perusal of this passage, we were ready to exclaim with Cicero, quosque tandem abutere nostra patientia? The attention, however, of our modern Prometheus and his élèves, would not probably be confined to the physical happiness of their crystal. They would watch the development of its moral faculties. They would place in its hands the writings of Spinoza and of Godwin, and teach it with the former, that God is but another name for substance, which involves within itself the necessary causes of the changes, to which it is exposed; or to speak in the language of Dr. Ewell, that life is not the consequence of the agency of an intelligent spirit, but of the affinities of matter, exercised on each

other, in the states created; and with the latter, that moral obligations are merely impediments to the march of mind, and that a state of perfection is fast approaching, when liberated man shall own no law but will, and suffer no punishment but the pangs of conscience. Endowed with these principles, they would send forth their crystallizations to people our gun-boats, or colonize our Louisiana possessions, unless they were inclined to 'exercise new affinities in the states created,' and dissolve in the humid atmosphere of the former, or melt in the fervid heats of the latter.

..... 'Pah,
Give me an ounce of civet, good apothecary,
To sweeten my imagination.'

Upon the whole, we have been disappointed on the perusal of this book. The author, we are confident, possesses talents, and by bestowing more time and labour on the composition of his work, he would have made it what he promises in the preface. At present the character of these Plain Discourses appears to be, that with the abstraction of 'something new,' they may be considered as a tolerable compendium of chemistry.

In a work like this, professedly devoted to the 'people,' our readers will not expect many observations on its style. With them the author seems contented to move along in the humble sphere of language. He rarely rises above mediocrity, and he cannot always be said to be guiltless of bad grammar. One cannot help remarking the liberal use of epithets, which are applied almost indiscriminately to the very great men of our own country. He seems delighted to acknowledge his obligations to the 'indefatigable professor, Dr. Barton,' 'that celebrated chemist,

Dr. Mitchell,' the 'not less learned than accomplished Dr. Miller,' the 'accurate experimenter, Dr. Woodhouse,' the 'accomplished scholar and secretary of the navy,' the 'venerable and hospitable Mr. Henderson,' and the 'accomplished and not less learned than eloquent Dr. N. T. Chapman, formerly of Virginia, at present one of the practitioners of physick of Philadelphia.' With respect to the execution of the work, it is printed on good paper with a clean type, but it was with much regret we noticed such a multitude of typographical errors in a book, which issued from a press usually so correct as that of Brisban & Brannan. We are informed, in a note by the author, that 'several material errors have most unfortunately escaped an earlier detection, in consequence of some parts of the work being unusually hurried through the press.' The occasion of all this haste we know not, but we are assured, that the publick would not have been disappointed nor injured at the delay of the work a sufficient time to correct these 'material errors.' In fact we are inclined to doubt whether the proof-sheet was ever inspected. Besides a number, which the author has corrected, we have noted several, which are of importance, as they effect the meaning, or sense of the passage; among these are 'minimum' for minium, 'sceptic' for septic, 'sulphur' for sulphuret, 'glans' for glands, 'chalk damp' for choak damp, 'from' for form, &c. &c. The pages of this work are continually disfigured with the minor errors of the press, such as 'soop,' 'morter,' 'quarts,' 'apotide,' 'metallic,' 'sacharine,' 'diamons,' 'medic,' &c. and with the omissions of letters in some instances, and their wrong collocation in others. We

have thus finished the review of this work, and we dismiss it with this advice to the author, that in future he would remember the recommendation of Horace, *Nonum prematur in annum.*

ART. 16.

Original Anecdotes of Frederick the Great, king of Prussia, and of his family, his court, his ministers, his academics, and his literary friends. From the French of Ducodonné Thiebault, professor of belles lettres in the royal academy of Berlin. Vol. I. pp. 433. Philadelphia, E. Bronson. 1806.

Of the greatest warrior, that Europe produced in the last century, whose prudence was never diminished with success, and whose spirit was inflexible after defeat; of him, who, not satisfied with the glory of conquest, aspired to be ranked with legislators, and even panted for the honours of philosophy, we must receive familiar anecdotes with peculiar delight. The political character of Frederick is too well known to be illustrated in this work; but it proposes, beside exhibiting other great men, his contemporaries, to give us his sentiments on the common business of life, to show him, as a son, a husband, a brother, or as a wit, a critick, and a metaphysician.

The author was invited, as a Professor, to Berlin in 1755, twenty-five years after Frederick mounted the throne, when his disposition must have been formed, and his principles fixed, and the intimacy, allowed to the Frenchman, is often his boast. In his preface he declares, 'The first law, which I prescribed to myself on entering upon this work, and from

which I have never deviated even in thought, was to write with the strictest fidelity respecting the facts it should contain. I solemnly declare, no single word appears in it that has not my entire belief.' That all the stories in his work were believed by the relator, we shall not dispute, for we wish not to gauge the capacity of any man's faith; yet we are sure his readers will be far behind him in facility of confidence.

The first volume is divided into three parts, viz. of Frederick the great, of his family, of his court. At the author's introduction the monarch openly avowed his fondness for the French, and contempt of his native language. This was perhaps the most grateful and least suspicious compliment, he could have bestowed on a French critic. But neither despotism, nor fashion can introduce a new language among a civilized nation, while it continues independent. Frederick would have appeared more patriotick in promoting the refinement of his vernacular idiom, than by his unavailing attempts to naturalize a foreign tongue. A sailor once said, the only mode of distinguishing our countrymen from the English, and thereby saving them from impressment, would be to invent a new language, and compel all the subjects of our government to adopt it. But we think it a more effectual way, to evaporate the ocean.

Of the reputation, which is least deserved, we are often most tenacious. Frederick had an uncommon expansion and comprehensibility of reasoning, but his education had not been sufficiently regular to preserve him from frequent solecisms. Yet he affected to school all the literati of his capital. Thebaak delights to inform us of the mortification his

colleagues received from the king; while he usually escaped by a deeper knowledge of his master's disposition. Once, however, after a long controversy on a topick of morals, the royal logician told the professor, 'My dear sir, you do not understand such subjects as these.' To his will obedience was commonly paid; but the honour of man was sometimes vindicated even in the palace of this arbitrary and capricious monarch. A dispute between him and an architect is worth insertion, though the design of the king was followed.

'The king would have an ordinary staircase in a small room to the left, and an antique grotto in the place of the vestibule. Leger declared he would draw out no such plans. The dispute became warm; each was equally tenacious and positive. . . . "I am the master," said the king; "I command that these plans shall be altered agreeably to my directions." . . . "My honour is concerned," replied Leger, "and to no consideration shall it be a sacrifice; Leger will never himself proclaim to his successors that he had a barbarous and vulgar taste; that he was wholly ignorant of his art; or that he was base enough to violate all its rules in compliance with an ill-timed respect."

That Frederick was fond of dogs, and hated his wife, had fifteen hundred snuff-boxes, and was a delicate epicure, we knew before this volume reached us. Perhaps too much attention is given by the author to such trifling memoranda; but we are often instructed in the causes of events, long known and little understood. We may even find something connected with the present state of Europe. Frederick and his brother Henry were often at variance, and the root of the enmity is discovered in page 218.

'The political reasons that made him averse to the total annihilation of Poland led him to conceive a plan, by

means of which he was persuaded he could place that country in a situation to oppose a powerful barrier to the innovations of Russia, Turkey, and Austria, in case of need: he accordingly regarded Poland as a useful ally of Prussia, of Sweden, and of Denmark. Such are the secret motives of his implacable animosity towards his brother for having prevented his nomination to the crown of Poland, and towards his nephew for having made the last partition of that country.

But certainly too much of the work is below the dignity of a professor, and scarce worth a second perusal.

There was a chamberlain in the court of the queen-mother, named M. de Morein, who was a man of so circumscribed an understanding, as to be constantly held up to ridicule in the sphere to which he belonged. Even after his death some facts were related of him that appeared almost incredible; such as his being unable to recollect whether at the siege of such a place he was the besieged or the besieger, and whether it was himself or his brother who was killed in such a campaign. It was to this M. Morien that the marquis d'Argens lent the same volume seven times over; and being asked afterwards how he liked the work, replied, "I think it, sir, an admirable production; but if I might speak my opinion freely, the author sometimes repeats the same things." The English ambassador requested him to present to the queen-mother the earl of Essex, then on his travels, and added that it was not the earl of Essex who had been beheaded under queen Elizabeth. Accordingly M. de Morien, at the usual hour of presentations, said to the queen, "Madame, I have the honour to present to your majesty the earl of Essex, a native of England and a traveller; for the rest, the English ambassador has assured me that he is not the same earl of Essex who was beheaded under queen Elizabeth."

The anecdotes of literary men, by all of whom Frederick was ambitious to be praised or abused, seem the best parts of the work. Rousseau and Raynal gained little kindness from the Prus-

sian monarch, and the latter savant is still more severely treated by the Professor of the Berlin academy.

It is notorious that, during the revolution, the abbe Raynal recanted his opinions in the most inconsistent and least honourable manner. He died while preparing a new edition of his Philosophical History, in which he purposed to suppress all that related to philosophy. Was he in reality convinced of the falsehood of his opinions? No; he gave them up from deference to those whose favour he courted. Self-love, vanity more than pride, the most rapacious avarice, the most unqualified boasting, and the yearning he felt to be the subject of men's thoughts and conversation, were the passions which during his whole life, perpetuated in his heart a violent and interminable warfare. These were the passions that made him successively a priest who would accept a bribe, a writer rich in the labours of others, a visionary philosopher, an incorrigible tyrant in colloquial society, and, lastly, a hypocritical religionist. The king of Prussia took the most cruel revenge of him in persisting to talk only of those of his works, of which he was really the author; of the two which, as the abbe well knew, had excited no esteem. Every one knows that his Philosophical History contains nothing but the name that is his own.

The Philadelphia publisher, whose press is famous for its elegant editions, particularly for that of Lorenzo de Medici, has always been liberal and diligent in forwarding us new and valuable publications; but he has either not sent us the 2d Vol. of this work, or it has miscarried.

ART. 17.

Vol. I. part I. Feb. term, 1806. Reports of cases argued, and determined, in the Supreme Court of Judicature of the State of New-York. By William Johnson, esquire, counsellor at law.—New-York, I. Riley & Co. 1806.

THE small series of reports, with which Mr. Johnson has recently

favoured the profession, is valuable, both on the score of its own merits, and as it gives promise of future productions. If it does not prove that the legal science of our country is perfect, it yet shows that it is meliorating. If the fruits of our judicial systems be not ripe, it proves that, in their natural tendencies, they are ripening. Adjudged cases, well reported, are so many land-marks, to guide erratic opinion. In America the popular sentiment has, at times, been hostile to the practice of deciding cases on precedent, because the people, and lawyers too, have misunderstood their use. Precedents are not statutes. They settle cases, which statutes do not reach. By reference to books, an inquirer collects the opinions and arguments of many great and learned men, on any particular topic. By the aid of these, he discovers principles and relations, inferences and consequences, which no man could instantaneously perceive. He has, at once, a full view of his subject, and arrives without difficulty, to the same conclusion, to which, probably, his own mind would in time have conducted him by a slow and painful process of ratiocination.

But precedents not only assist the judge; they, in a good measure, control him. They tend to bring the judicial system to that excellent condition, in which the law, and not the judge, decides cases. They prevent the substitution of personal opinions for the doctrines of the law. Judges will sometimes affect to play the *chancellor*, and following an ill-judged notion of *equity*, they pursue the phantom, through courses, devious as the serpent's, and dark as midnight. *Equity* doctrines, combined in questions at common law, tend to annihilate all

legal certainty and to confound all principle. The law becomes 'without form and void, and darkness is on the face of it.' There is a medium. No man, in this age, contends for the illiteral constructions, and black-lettered niceties of the ancient gownmen; nor will a wise man push to the other extreme, and overwhelm all certainty and all rule in the chaos of *arbitration* principles. A discreet judge will take a middle course. He will neither fly to 'the extremity of the west, nor run away *beyond Aurora and the Ganges*.' Settled cases narrow the ground of private opinion. They are useful in enabling the profession correctly to advise their clients. They leave less to the judge, and render the *rule* more certain. This is the legitimate use of precedents.

We beg Mr. Johnson's pardon, and the reader's, for wandering so far from his book.

The case of Ludlow & al. vs. Browne, & al. page 1, seems to be nothing more or less than a question of fact, viz. whether the plaintiffs were bonafide owners of the goods in question, or whether they had merely accommodated the French merchants with their names, with the fraudulent design of covering the property with the mask of neutrality. If this point had been decided by a jury, there would have been an end to the cause. The case of Tucker vs. Jubel & al. p. 20, is still more destitute of any question of law. It ought to be expunged from the book.

In the case, Foot vs. Tracy, p. 46, the court, notwithstanding it consists of *five* learned judges, is said to be equally divided. The question is whether, in an action for a libel, the defendant can give in evidence, under the general issue,

the general character of the plaintiff in mitigation of damages? Ch. J. Kent and Mr. J. Thompson hold the affirmative; Mr. J. Livingston and Mr. J. Tomkins the negative. Mr. J. Spenser gave no opinion, but the reporter has not favoured us with the reason. The impartial balance of the law is thus kept true to its level!

We know of nothing more unhappy for the publick, or more discouraging to those engaged in professional pursuits, than the disagreement of judges. When the ardent inquirer has laboured through the tangles of a complicated and ensnared statement; when he has toiled after counsel up the steep ascent of inference, induction, conclusion; eager to be solved of his doubts, and overborne perhaps by the pressure of contradictory cases and opinions, he looks to the court for final decision, and beholds, depressed and disheartened, uncertainty and doubt emanating even from the oracle! If six months severe study and reflection could have made the court agreed in the case of Foot vs. Tracy, the time would have been well expended. Mr. J. has reported above forty cases. Of these, several are questions of practise, which are indeed useful to the junior part of the profession, in introducing them to an acquaintance with the administration of publick justice. Perhaps not more than twenty of the cases in this volume involve much difficulty or legal obscurity. In *five*, the most important of these twenty, the court disagree. This seems to be a great portion of causes of that description. We happen to have Cranch's Reports before us, while we write this, a book of about 500 pages, and upon examination we find no case in it, in

which the court was divided. In the Court of King's Bench in England eleven successive years have elapsed without presenting a diversity of opinion among the judges in a single case; and perhaps for thirty years, in that court, there was hardly as much difference of opinion on the Bench, as happened in the New-York court, in the Term, in which the cases, which Mr. J. reports were heard. The cause of this difference is a subject deserving consideration. Would it not be better, if, in *ordinary* occasions, but one opinion, and that the opinion of the court, were expressed?

The case of the People vs. Barret and Ward, p. 66, is a highly important one in the principle it involves, but totally unimportant as a precedent from the disagreement of the judges. Judge Livingston's argument in that case is a happy specimen of juridical reasoning.

In the case, Foot vs. Tracy, we observe the marginal abstract is incorrect. The same remark applies to the case of Livingston vs. Cheetham, and to that of New Windsor Turnpike Company vs. Ellison.

There are some errors of the press, which we do not note. The type is handsome and the paper good. There is a great deal too much *margin* on the pages, for any good purpose. Modern books of poetry and plays have already crowded our shelves with white paper. *Och, jam satis!* The references to authorities are generally correct and pertinent.

On the whole, we believe the Profession will be thankful to Mr. Johnson, not for making a *book*, but for making a *good one*.

ART. 18.

Miscellaneous Poems, with several specimens from the author's manuscript version of the poems of Ossian. By J. M. Sewall, Esq. Portsmouth, Wm. Treadwell & Co. for the author. 12mo.

THIS little volume, however deficient in other respects, certainly cannot fail to please, if *variety* be the criterion. It is 'a thing of shreds and patches,' and contains fragments of every species of poetry from epick to epigrammatick. The merits of its component parts are perhaps as unequal, as they are various, and if they sometimes excite a disposition to praise, we are oftener compelled to censure. We occasionally find vigour of genius, brilliancy of imagination and poetick imagery; but much more frequently weak conceptions, dull and feeble versification, that appear rather the offspring of a mind imbecile and heavy, than of one,

..... cui mens divinior, atque os
Magni soniturum.

Lord Monbodo, we are told, *believed in tails*; and with a similar degree of faith Mr. Sewall is one of those, who believe in the authenticity of the poems of Ossian. The rhapsodies of Macpherson, sugared over with a counterfeit rust of antiquity, have gained a reputation with some, from whose orthodoxy in literature we had expected better things. That the multitude should mistake madness for inspiration, and extravagance for sublimity, is not marvellous; but every one who reverences the great masters, Spencer, Shakespeare, and Milton, cannot but grieve, that unmeaning declamation should so lead common sense captive, as to usurp the

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place of the natural, simple, and pathetick descriptions of our best poets. It is not unlike 'strenuous idleness' for a man of genius to waste his powers in attempting to reduce to measure, that which can please only by its wildness and savage irregularity. Yet in the specimens from Ossian of the work in question, we find some of his most laboured and finished passages, polished with great care, and least liable to critical animadversion.

In his levities he displays no inconsiderable talent of embellishing trifles, and giving interest to occurrences in themselves trivial, by the adventitious aids of humour and vivacity. His epigrams have generally the necessary and distinguishing ingredients of wit and point, without which they can never be tolerated.

The profiles of eminent men are sometimes lifeless and inanimate sketches, dull and prosaick in verification, and afford not a few examples of genuine anti-climax. In others we have bold and characteristic delineations, giving the most distinguishing features of mind, with a grace and dignity hardly to be expected from the shackles of an acrostick.

The devotional poems in this book deserve great praise for piety, fervent but rational, zeal without fanaticism, and seriousness without gloom or asperity.

ART. 19.

Memoirs of the life of Marmontel, written by himself. New-York, Brisban & Brannan. 1807. 2 vols. 12mo.

THIS work was composed by Marmontel, for the instruction of his children, during his seclusion in the village of Abbeville, at a

time, when every Frenchman, who would not kneel to the revolutionary colossus, kneaded with mire and cemented with blood, found it necessary to fly from the furies of Paris. It is written in a familiar style, and, as the author more than once informs us, seems intended only for his children. The two first volumes (now in one) comprise the little anecdotes of his years at school; the acquaintance which he there formed; the history of his various instructors; the societies into which he afterwards became initiated; the secrets of his amours; and the success of his literary labours, &c. &c. Most of the portraits, contained in these memoirs, though professedly of the greatest characters of the eighteenth century, are merely local, and excite but little interest; however pleasing they may be to his children, they are not of sufficient consequence to the world, to occupy so large a part of the work. That of one Hubert, toward the end of the second volume, is of this description; after giving an account of 'Cramer,' a 'bookseller:'

'Hubert had a talent, less useful, but amusing and very curious in its utility. You would have said he had eyes at his finger's ends. With his hands behind his back, he would cut out a profile as like, and even more like, than he could have drawn with a pencil. He had the face of Voltaire so strongly impressed on his imagination, that, absent or present, his scissors represented him meditating, writing, in action, and in all attitudes. I have seen landscapes cut out by him in white paper, where the perspective was preserved by him with prodigious art.'

The third and fourth volumes contain some brief sketches of the

revolution, its causes, and its consequences; anecdotes of its leaders, their corruption, and intrigue; together with a variety of facts, now better known, and more circumstantially related by those, who have made it a business to collect and compile them. As the author took no part in the revolution, and mentions only those things, which concern himself, or those, with whom he was acquainted more particularly, nothing is here found, that can be considered new and interesting; and nothing interesting which, at this time, is new. He writes on this subject with all the feelings of a Frenchman, who has escaped the madness of faction, and who is compelled to view the downfall of his country from the recesses of concealment; and on this topick, discoursing to his children, we are willing to look with all indulgence.

Upon the whole, the Memoirs of Marmontel deserve no greater praise than that of being *amusing*. They contain nothing of much consequence to any class of readers, excepting those, who are fond of fiction and romance; and to these, the style and the matter will meet with friends.

A comparison of the American edition, with that printed in London in 1805, in four volumes, will be in favour of the former; for though there are many faults not to be found in the original, such as, 'tolerably severe,' 'nascent beauty,' &c. &c. yet these are common to both translations.

The type is small, but as it will generally be read by very young eyes, this may be no great objection. Book IV. is printed 'Book III.,' lineal is spelt 'lineal,' and 'nature,' in two places, has the final letter omitted. There are several other trifling inaccuracies

in the execution, probably arising from the fineness of the letters. The binding is neat, and the paper good. We are pleased to observe, that this work is compressed to the size of two volumes, and should another edition be issued, we think the best part of the matter might be contained in one.

ART. 20.

The Culex of Virgil; with a translation into English verse, by Lucius M. Sergeant.

*Parve Culex, pectus dum custos, tunc tale me-
moris,
Fueris officium vitæ promerere reddis.*

8vo. pp. 44. Boston, Balch & Armstrong.

THE first question concerning the *Culex* is, whether it be Virgil's. In proof of its authenticity Mr. S. has inserted in a note the authorities collected by Heyne, from Suetonius, Statius, and Martial; and has noticed the objection of Ruzus, founded on the comparative meanness of the poem. In answer to this objection, Mr. S. 'humbly conceives,' that, supposing with Ruzus, his author was twenty-six years of age when he wrote the *Culex*, 'he might have written the *Bucolics* at the age of thirty, without progressing beyond the gradation of poetical improvement.' We know not on what principles Mr. S. has graduated his scale of poetical progression; but, in ordinary calculations, we should not predict, that the author of a humble, obscure poem, of doubtful appellation, written at the age of twenty-six, would, at the age of thirty, produce the most polished and captivating pastorals. In making these remarks, we have taken it for granted, that Mr. S. intended to speak of the *Culex* as the text now stands; for he has said nothing of its genuineness.

That Virgil wrote a poem called *Culex*, is indisputable. The authorities, which Mr. S. has quoted, prove this point so fully,

'That the probation bears no hinge nor loop

To hang a doubt on.'

But we could have wished him to shew, whether it has descended to us in such a tolerable state of purity, that Virgil's reputation as a poet is in any degree involved in the production. If Mr. S. has submitted to the drudgery of comparing Heyne's text of this poem, with his marginal notes, and remarked the various readings, the frequent interpolations, and the perpetual corruptions, we think, if at all skeptical in his nature, he must be led to doubt whether this poem can strictly be called the *Culex* of Virgil. It is a well known tale, concerning the vessel in which Theseus of Athens sailed to Crete, and returned to his country after an unprecedented exploit, that, by continual renovation of its parts, its identity became a question of much sophistical debate. Whether the poem under consideration furnish as worthy a topick for the display of dialecticks, is a question that we shall submit to the learning of the schools.

We think it would have been proper for Mr. S. to have prefaced the poem, both the original and the translation, with the argument. This he might have found, for the former, furnished to his hand in Heyne's edition, where it is sufficiently full and perspicuous. It would also have been an improvement to have printed the original text and the translation on opposite columns, and to have numbered the lines of each.

In remarking on Mr. S.'s translation of this mutilated, *Bucolico-Herack* poem, we are disposed to

allow him all the indulgence that ever translator claimed. Where, of different readings, the true one was doubtful, he had the right of choosing; and where the reading was obscure, he had the right of guessing. There is, in different parts of this poem, such a mixed mass of mythology and fable, so blended, so obscure in design, and so sudden in transition, that we are not disposed to blame the translator for his occasional freedom in supplying the evident deficiencies of his author, by that which his classical reading has enabled him more fully to express.

He has taken a small liberty of this kind in the story of Tantalus, as related by the Gnat, after his visit to the shades :

..... 'Vix ultimus omni
Restat, nectareas Divum qui prodidit
escas,
Gutturis arenti revolutus in omnia sen-
su.'—*V.* 239, &c.

..... 'Here doomed in hell
To feel a thirst, he sees the means to
quell,
Sad Tantalus remains; condemned by
Jove,
For stealing nectar from the starry grove.'

The tale of Orpheus Mr. S. has told very much in a manner of his own, without any particular regard to the original.

We have noticed, on the other hand, several lacunæ; particularly an allusion to the fable of Phæton, (*v.* 126, &c.) Some trifling omissions we observed in passing, which we think not sufficiently important to call for censure or complaint.

The general character of this translation is that of a freedom, which we should not approve, were the *Culex* as perspicuous, as those writings of Virgil, with which we are more familiar. But considering the intrinsick defects of the

poem, we are inclined to vindicate Mr. S. from the charge of too great liberty in his manner of rendering it into English, and to grant him the praise of presenting to us a story better told, with more interest, and with more gracefulness, than the materials from which he was obliged to compose it, entitled us to expect.

The following extract will serve for an example of Mr. S.'s manner :

'O, bona pastoris!' &c.—*V.* 57.

'Blest is the shepherd's life! ah, happy
swain,
Who seeks no joys beyond his native
plain;
Nor pants for wealth, nor heaves a
wishful sigh
For all the charms of pageant luxury.
For him no joy can Syrian dyes impart,
Nor costly bowls, the boast of Alcon's
art;
Nor splendid halls, nor stones of fairest
hue,
Nor pearls that toil from India's ocean
drew.
But oft, when Spring, and all her charms
appear,
And Flora's pencil paints the blooming
year,
Full light of heart, from some green
bank he views
The various fields, and notes their
several hues;
Or, all at ease, beguiles his hours away,
Whilst with his reed he tunes some
past'ral lay.
Vines, curling o'er him, shade the ver-
dant ground,
And rip'ning clusters hang luxurious
round.'

The style and versification of this performance are generally correct. But we should be accused of partiality to Mr. S., if we were to pass unnoticed a few defects, which we are confident, with a little more labour, he would have avoided.

'You fam'd in war, Octavius,' &c.

In this grave address to the prince, *thou* is much to be preferred; and we remark incidentally,

that, *fun'd in war* is not authorised in the text which Mr. S. has used; 'cui meritis oritur fiducia chartis.' Chartis is undoubtedly the correct reading, and not castris; for it must be remembered, that Cæsar was yet a *puer*, and had not distinguished himself in the field.

'Those' and 'these,' followed by 'this' and 'that,' and applied to the shepherd's flock, we mention for the consideration of Mr. S.

The 50th line, '*To mount,*' &c. an Alexandrine, which neither closes a paragraph, nor a period.

'Where none may go, but those whom
Minos doom.'

We are confident Mr. S. is not reduced to such poverty of language, that he feels it necessary to sacrifice grammatical propriety to an imperious call for a rhyming word.

..... 'This aid 'tis hard to find,
If (whether) chance produced, or fate
itself designed.'

While we congratulate the public on this small accession to the specimens of American literature, we cannot but express a wish, that Mr. S. had directed his industry and talents to some undertaking, which would have entitled him to more praise. Should he hereafter invite us to compare his productions with the poets of Greece or Rome, we hope they will contain something more interesting, than the death, the infernal peregrinations, and the ghostly, but vocal apparition of a Gnat;—a rare gnat indeed;

'Corvo quoque rarior albo.'

ART. 21.

The Salem Collection of Classical Sacred Musick; in three and four parts: consisting of psalm tunes and occasional pieces, selected from the works of the most

eminent composers; suited to all the metres in general use. To which is prefixed, an introduction to psalmody. Second edition. Boston, printed by Manning & Loring, for Cushing & Appleton, (Salem.) pp. 136.

TO the honour of the literary gentlemen of Salem they were the first to resist an imposition, which was lately attempted to be practised, by some of our southern brethren, in the republication of Dr. Rees' Cyclopædia. In this resistance we united our exertions, not however from malice, or because we were glad of the occasion; but because it is the duty of good men to be watchful over each other for the general edification. For whoever supposes, that the good men of this world must be perfect, has made but little observation on human nature, and is in danger of losing his charity, which ought never to fail. The good only can bear reproof. The plain language, which they use one towards the other, falls into a rich and healthful soil, and brings forth fruit, sometimes sixty and sometimes a hundred fold. It is only the vain and impertinent coxcomb in literature, who cannot bear those faithful rebukes of a friend, which are designed only to heal a diseased, or to strengthen a debilitated frame.

We are not content to approve merely, but we must declare our unqualified approbation of the sentiments, which are contained in the preface to this work, and which were likewise prefixed to the former edition. They were written by no common hand; and we recommend them to the frequent perusal of singers, especially of such as are engaged in forming collections of sacred musick.

We wish that psalmody was more generally a subject of attention with christians, especially with those to whom nature has given a taste for the delights of harmony, and a voice to aid in its performance. It is a most rational and delightful employment. We soon lose the relish for that species of musick, which is designed only to display the powers of the voice, or the skill of the performer. The sober employments of domestick life too soon banish from the family circle the instruments, which seem almost exclusively devoted to the works of Italian, French, and English masters, whose complicated and artificial pieces are frequently learnt with extreme pain, and too often forgotten without regret. All the time, consumed by the generosity of our fashionables in the acquisition of this science, is thus, in a great proportion of the scholars, lost. It is the loss of a most valuable accomplishment, for musick is in itself a language; and we may add, that it is more universally understood by mankind in general, whose nerves vibrate in unison with its selected tones, than any other language among the dialects of the earth.' The reason of this loss may be, that in the common songs, glees, and even in many of the pieces, which scholars are taught, there is but little to elevate the mind, and to inspire a taste for the science. The greater part is mere tinsel, shining with false lustre for a moment, very costly, but of little value. But the object of psalmody is the praise of our Common Father, in whose praise the highest intelligences are constantly engaged, and with increasing delight. It is almost the only amusement of youth, which never loses its relish in old age. It is a per-

petual source of consolation, and always enhances the felicity of our purest and most elevated affections. It is the natural expression of gratitude, and none has more reason for gratitude, than the christian, to whom it is permitted, while passing through this scene, to view in perspective the promised land.

The cause of the decline of church musick is to be attributed principally to the ignorance of our teachers of the art. 'In villages, where there are no organs,' says Dr. Miller, 'the singing-masters may do a great deal; but they have much to forget, and much to learn. Fondly attached to compositions in many parts, and those chiefly composed by unskilful men, abounding in ill-constructed *figures* and false harmony, they are apt to treat with contempt the simple, but elegant melodies, used in parish churches; but, would they study the various beauties of *expression*, the true *portamento*, or conduct of the voice, free from all nasal sounds or screaming exertions—a proper pronunciation, and the energetic expression of emphatical words; they would soon find, that these despised melodies, when properly performed, with true *pronunciation*, just *intonation*, and feeling *expression*, are as capable of fixing the attention, and affecting the hearts of the congregation, as more elaborate musick.*'

In most of our churches a set of tunes are sung, in which the congregation cannot join. There appears to us to be as much impropriety in excluding any from a participation in what ought to be a common act, as there would be in reading

* *The Psalms of David for the use of parish churches. The words selected from the version of Tate and Brady, by the Rev. George Ha; Drummond, the musick selected, adapted, and composed by Edward Miller, Mus. Doct. London. price 12s.*

the prayers, or delivering the sermon, in an unknown tongue. It is perhaps owing to this circumstance, that there are so many, who do not join at all in this employment, or who do it with indifference. We therefore wish, that the ballad-like and indecorous compositions of many ignorant modern composers might be banished from publick worship; and that the noble ancient melodies might be recalled from exile, and restored to their just rights and privileges. We would not however entirely proscribe the more quick and complicated melodies, some of which, particularly many by Pleyel, Hadyn, and Costello, are charming specimens of musical composition, and admirably suited to devotional occasions.

We have indulged in these general remarks, because we always advance with a slow and melancholy step to the painful task of noting the faults of *excellent* productions. For, as though the editors of 'The Salem Collection of Classical Sacred Musick' meant to exemplify in their work the truth of the closing remark of the preface, 'that perfection seems only to shun us in proportion to our endeavours to approach her,' we observe defects in this edition, from which the former was in a far greater degree free.

"Let others hail the rising sun,
We bow to that, whose race is run."

'The eminent professor of musick' has, we think, deformed with modern improvements the grandeur of associations, which ages have consecrated. The *airs* of the tunes, it is true, remain, in most instances, untouched. But there are in this collection twenty-seven tunes,*

* All Saints, Angels' Hymn, Bath, Brecknock, Old Hundred, Osnaburgh, Portugal, Richmond, Rickmansworth,

in which the other parts, especially the two upper, are so greatly altered, from what they are in any collection of sacred musick. without our knowledge, that we hesitate to recommend it, as we were prepared to do, as the companion in churches, and the guide in schools.†

We confess, that several of the tunes, which we have enumerated in the note, have been cruelly mangled by almost every American compiler, who has copied them. If the offence were indictable, no grand jury would find a bill against many of the offenders of this class for any thing short of murder. What! can't they read? or are they Goths and Vandals, who love to make war upon taste and antiquity? The 'professor' ought, we think, to have furnished some authority, for so widely deviating from the most approved European standards. We admit, that the emendations evince an acquaintance with the rules of musick: but whether it arises from our depraved taste, or from the strength of early impressions, or from our attachment to the doctrines of the reformation; we must confess, that we prefer *Old Hundred*, as it has generally been sung by the best writers, and as it was probably written by Martin Luther, to any alterations which even a Handel could make. Alterations! this is the age of alterations: science, as well as government, trembles at the revolutionary spirit of the times.

Rockingham, Truro, Winchester, Armley, Mecklenburgh, Putney, Canterbury, Colchester, Dunchurch, Irish, Old Eighty-One, Fensance, Bangor, Buckingham, Wantage, Sutton, Psalm 90, and Italy.

† When we referred to this Collection in page 51 of the present volume of the Anthology, we had not seen the second edition.

In justice to this selection, it ought to be stated, that the typographical execution is handsome and very correct; that the tunes are, with few exceptions, from the compositions of eminent masters; and that the 'Introduction to Psalmody' is, on the whole, a useful one. We wish that, consistently with our fidelity to the pick, we could have spoken of this

work only in a style of commendation. But it is no surprising thing, that it should be imperfect. Where is the book, which is free from defect? We console ourselves with the reflection, when we see a good man fall into a fault, or a wise man guilty of an error, 'that there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease.'

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL
INTELLIGENCE.

AMERICAN.

"Philadelphia, April 15, 1807.

"THE opening of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, appointed for this day, was very generally attended by the contributors. It is but justice to the Directors to say, that the number and selection of Casts, they have imported, do great honour to their exertions. The figures are from the choicest pieces of statuary in Europe, and, arranged with taste and judgment, formed a splendid exhibition, and gave universal satisfaction. The following appropriate address on the occasion, was delivered by GEORGE CLYMER, Esq. President of the Institution:

"THE Directors of this Institution, having fixed on a day, for opening the building, dedicated, by your liberality, to the Fine Arts—they now call you together to witness how the trust committed to them has been executed. And intending at the same time, a short address to you, its founders and patrons, the task of its delivery, from the avocations of some gentlemen, has fallen upon me.

With this exposure of their work, it would be well, if the directors could say that the funds, so generously supplied, had been equal to the objects—And that they could speak confidently of their saving management in the expenditure, but this, I fear, would be a questionable theme; the truth indeed is, that the cost has exceeded the estimate. The calculations of unexperienced zeal are seldom just: And besides they have been less intent upon sparing your money, than solicitous to advance

your reputation: And they have perhaps fallen into that mistake, which is ever fortunate when it gives birth to schemes of publick usefulness, that might, otherwise, not have been undertaken.

This acknowledgment, notwithstanding, I shall present you with nothing like a statement or account, with its deficient balance; this will come from another quarter, together with a plan from the directors, for relieving the Academy from some present embarrassments, as well as for supplying the means of placing it upon a firmer and broader establishment.

If the contemplation of the pieces of exquisite workmanship, that encircle you, would of itself impart a knowledge, as it will an admiration of the art that produced them, you might expect something, in this address, upon its principles—Some indeed, there are among us, who have a professional acquaintance with such subjects—but these are few, and the rest, not particularly instructed, are, I trust, not inclined to supply the defect of science, by the affectation of taste, or the cant of connoisseurship; their business is not to offer the proofs of any present skill, but to lay the foundation, to furnish the means of the future attainment; and on this, none need apprehend the failure of success. No nation has the proud monopoly of genius, or can make itself its exclusive seat; wherever there are men, there genius is to be found.—Besides the universality of this grant of nature, instances sufficient are in evidence that we have not been omitted in the dispensation. Our country, it is

true, has produced chiefly the bad or germ; for the development and expansion of the natural talent, with some very respectable exceptions, it has been as yet much indebted to the fostering care of some other. Hence in one of the most pleasing departments of the arts, a West, a Copley, a Stuart, and a Trumbull, who might have withered & declined in their native bed, by transplantation into a more improved soil, have arrived at the fullest growth of excellence. In this home establishment you provide what may make such excellence all your own—a school for study, a field for competition; and become, moreover, the instruments in diffusing a taste throughout, to ensure general encouragement, and particular patronage.

If your just pride should be excited, from this one consideration, not to neglect a child of your own, it may be no less piqued by another.

The visitors to us from the other hemisphere, before the era of our revolution, came to a new country, with dispositions to estimate us, more by our advance on the course, than by our distance from the goal: and they were pleased to find that in its noage, it had proceeded so far in culture and refinement. These of latter days, now that we have cut the cord of foreign dependence, and set up for ourselves, discover a very different humour. Overlooking or derogating from whatever is valuable or praise-worthy, aggravating some blemishes, and contemning all things, in a new scene, which they have not the faculty to understand—instead of presenting a likeness of the country, they have disfigured it with a moral and physical caricature; insomuch that the notion they have succeeded, in their books of travels, in impressing upon the too willing belief of the ancient world is, that it demands the hardihood of a Ledyard, or of a Mungo Parke, to explore the miseries of our wilderness, and to encounter the barbarity of our manners.

Witnesses of the diligent habits, and various enterprizes of the American people, they ascribe to avarice what is due to freedom, which always prompts the labours of man by the assurance it gives him, that the fruit is all his own; and they insist, with a wonderful harmony of detraction, that all our pursuits are selfish—and that going straight for-

ward in one sordid path, there is nothing sufficiently powerful to allure us from it, either to the right hand, or to the left.

Your effectual support of this institution, wherein no personal motive can be pretended, will be so far a practical contradiction of the libel, and prove its best refutation.

Nevertheless, objections will be made to your design, as a departure from accustomed simplicity—Between simplicity and refinement, or if you will, luxury, the question has been frequent and undecided; but if luxury be a consequential evil of the progress of our country, a better question, perhaps, it would be, how is it to be understood? Where an unrestricted, and unoppressed industry gains more than simplicity requires, the excess, as it cannot be pent up, will be employed upon gratifications beyond it—how retain the cause, and repress the effect? Philosophy and the laws would here teach in vain! where a constantly rising flood cannot be banked out, the waters should be directed into channels the least hurtful—so ought the exuberant riches, which would incline towards voluptuousness, to be led off to objects more innoxious—even to those of greater purity and innocence; those that will not pamper the senses, but rather amuse, if not instruct the understanding; and it may, with some truth be observed, that those who carry the whole fruit of an assiduous and successful toil to the common hoard of national wealth, undiminished by any waste of it, but on the few wants of simplicity, contribute with most effect to the refinement or luxuries, to which, in their practice, they seemed most averse.

Such being the consequence of a growing opulence, the alternative would be, not as between simplicity and luxury, but between the grosser and more refined species of the latter. Where is the room then, for hesitation in the choice?

But are our particular objects alone to be cherished? are none else worthy of our care? This is best answered by remarking, that ours are well suited to a voluntary society; that all the liberal arts are of a kindred spirit—kindling at each other's flame; that as members of the same family, they have a mutual sympathy and relation; naturally flourishing together; the best examples in

poetry, eloquence, and history, being always contemporary with those of sculpture, painting, and architecture. In this institution you directly or indirectly promote them all.

The mechanic arts, we mean those of the more ingenious and elegant kinds, not failing of the inspiration, the workman in them is converted into an artist, and they partake of the common benefit. Every fashion, which always comes in as a beauty, and goes out as a deformity—fashion, on whose incessant change the judgment takes so little part, may be brought more under the dominion of taste, with her 'fixed principles and fancy ever new.'

But a stronger incentive to second your original efforts remains—your interest in the national reputation. Men identifying themselves with their country, take it with a salutary prejudice to their bosoms, and I trust not from this natural bias, for which we have the strongest pleas, but that we have a pride in whatever tends, in the world's estimation, to exalt the character of our city, and that we gratulate ourselves on its numerous institutions, which regard our charities, our civil economy and police, and extending in not a few to the interests of literature and the sciences—among which may be particularly distinguished the philosophical society—the very extensive publick library—the museum, that spirited labour of an individual—and the enlarged medical school.

An establishment for the Fine Arts is now our principal desideratum, and perhaps more than all, in adding to its attractions, may contribute to determine the choice of the hesitating stranger to Philadelphia, as the desirable seat of reason and politeness.

A further doubt than what has been suggested, may be urged against your design. It is whether your country has reached that point of exaltation which calls for, or justifies it?

Let him who may suggest the doubt, bear this truth in mind, that every civilized and intelligent community, naturally rises in its condition, and that it is only from the defect of wholesome principles in the political association where this consequence is not perceived; it is indeed chiefly in arbitrary monarchies, in which the whole being is of less account in the eye of government, than the individual at the head,

and the universal good held in subordination to his particular interest, where this tendency is resisted, or a country made stationary or retrograde.

The forms and objects of our various American governments are of this tendency, and when improved by experience, and ameliorated by time, they will, as we are bound to hope, be the guarantees of our growth and prosperity. But there are other contributory causes—a geographical position and figure, the most favourable to a foreign commerce; and to supply it, the double fertility of spring and autumn: so unusual to regions of our temperature, with a rapid agricultural improvement. An increase of population, unknown to any modern time, and now proceeding at an accelerated pace. Those, we may say, are the principles that as a nation have already carried us the full length of some, and those not the *least* considerable, of the European states—having seen their effect in part, we may prophecy the rest, that we are destined to a rank and station with the *most* considerable.

These few considerations, as the subject will be enlarged on by your own reflections, have been thought sufficient by the directors for this occasion—and with these few they venture, to solicit the continuance of your support to this object of your munificence. To solicit indeed is unnecessary.—It is enough, they are persuaded, to hint that the institution is still in need of the hand that raised it—that without it, it may decline to a mere monument of abortive zeal, ominous of future undertakings, instead of what it ought to be, the evidence of a successful labour, so highly creditable to your city and to yourselves.

Not that the directors mean to confine themselves to the original patrons, their hope does not rest solely on your liberality: trusting that many there are of a congenial spirit yet untried, who, following in your steps, will cheerfully incline to assist your views."

....

At a meeting of the Members of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, in the Hall of the Academy,

The following resolutions having passed the Board of Directors, were proposed and unanimously adopted, to wit:

Whereas, this Society has obtained

a Charter of incorporation, and by the aid of voluntary contributions, have become possessed of a valuable appropriate building, erected under their own authority and direction; and also of a considerable importation of Casts, from the most celebrated collections of Statuary. For the purposes of more firmly establishing the said institution, and rendering it commensurate with the laudable intention of its supporters, Be it resolved,

1. That the rights and property of the Society shall be divided into 300 shares.

2. That every subscriber of 50 dollars in cash, and paying an annual subscription of 2 dollars shall receive a certificate of proprietorship, for one share, to be held in perpetuity by himself, his heirs or assigns.

3. Transfers of shares may be made by the proprietors in person, or by attorney, with the approbation of any three of the Directors, and in the presence of the President or Treasurer, subject always to the said annual payment of 2 dollars; and the proprietor of each share of stock, for the time being, shall be entitled to a free admission into the Academy at all times within the hours appointed for public exhibition.

4. The building having been erected on two lots taken on annual ground rents for the purpose, Resolved, That the surplusage arising from the annual payment of 2 dollars on each share, after the payment of the said ground rents, shall be solely applied to the forming a sinking fund, until the sum is sufficient to purchase off and extinguish the same, unless other means be adopted for that purpose.

5. That the monies which shall hereafter be received from the subscription for shares, shall be duly applied in the following order, to wit: first, to the discharge of the present claims on the society, for materials and work applied to the building—Second, to the discharge of all monies now held on loan—Third, that the remainder, together with the revenue arising from the exhibition, after deducting the salary of the attendant and other contingent expenses, shall be applied to the further promotion of the objects of the institution.

6. Those who are now subscribers under 50 dollars, shall be invited to

make up their subscriptions to that amount—and such as decline doing so, shall have a free ticket, and enjoy all the rights to which they are now entitled, but shall not be considered as share-holders on the terms of these resolutions.

7. All subscribers to the institution, either by contribution or loan, who incline to become share-holders as aforesaid, may be credited to the amount of their subscription, or any part thereof, in payment for shares of stock as they shall respectively apply for.

American Mathematical Society.

Convinced of the utility of mathematical investigation; its great importance in every part of mechanical science; its subserviency to the convenience of mankind; and the abridgement of labour, a number of gentlemen of Philadelphia, and other parts of the United States, convened in the Philosophical Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, June 2, 1806, and resolved to institute a society for the promulgation of mathematical knowledge. They then proceeded to digest and adopt a constitution, for the better regulation of their subsequent proceedings.

Having adopted the constitution, the society proceeded to the election of officers, and the standing committee, when

Mr. Robert Patterson was chosen president,

Mr. Samuel B. Wylie, secretary, and Mr. Joseph Clay, treasurer.

Messrs. Clay, Wylie, and Delamar, the standing committee of correspondence.

The society being thus organized, proceeded to business, and pitched upon the following subjects as prize questions; and

Resolved, 1. That a premium of fifty dollars be awarded to the author of the best approved compendious system of practical surveying.

2. That a premium of thirty dollars be given to the author of the best approved piece upon the theory of arches to support weight and pressure. Both pieces to be put into the hands of the secretary on or before the 15th day of April, accompanied with letters respectively, signifying the candidate's name and place of residence.

The committee think it unnecessary

to enlarge upon the importance of such an institution. Should the mathematicians in the different parts of the United States contribute their exertions to its support, not only the present, but future generations will reap the advantage. Animated with these views, the committee of correspondence address the several mathematicians in the United States, with a display of the general outline of the constitution of the society, and most cordially solicit their co-operation in promoting the object of the society, and invite them to attend the next stated meeting.

EUROPEAN.

The designs of Mr. Flaxman from the Italian poet Dante, which were originally composed in Italy, for Mr. Thomas Hope are at length preparing for publication, they consist of one hundred and nine subjects, of a smaller size than his compositions from Homer. Mr. Flaxman has also thoughts of publishing his compositions from the Lord's Prayer and acts of Mercy, the result of many years study. He also is employed upon compositions from

the Greek poet Hesiod. This eminent artist has in hand the following pieces of sculpture. A great national monument of Earl Howe for St. Paul's Cathedral, and a statue of Sir Joshua Reynolds for the same place; a statue of Mr. Pitt for the city of Glasgow; a public monument to the late Josiah Webb, Esq. for India; with several inferior commissions both publick and private. He has just completed a magnificent statue of the Raja of Tanjore, for that Prince, and a monument to the Rev. F. Swartz a missionary, who died in the Raja's dominions.

Mr. Northmore has nearly completed an Epick Poem, of ten books, upon which he has been engaged for a considerable time: it is entitled, *Washington, or Liberty Restored*, and, exclusive of the Imagery, is entirely founded upon historical records.

Mr. Janson who has lately returned from America, has brought with him many interesting materials towards furnishing a complete survey of the state of society and manners in that country: which will speedily appear in one 4to. volume, accompanied with a number of engravings.

CATALOGUE

OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES For APRIL, 1807.

Sunt bona, sunt quedam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

The American Ship-Master's Daily Assistant, or compendium of marine law, and mercantile regulations and customs; being a correct and useful guide to all men in business, especially those employed in the merchant-service. Explaining, by judicial decisions; the duty, authority, and responsibility of ship-masters, and the liability of ship-owners for the contracts or misconduct of those they employ as masters, &c. The whole carefully compiled from undoubted authorities. 8vo. pp. 608. Portland, printed for D. Johnson. J. M'Kown, printer. 1807.

War without Disguise, or the Frauds of Neutral Commerce a justification of belligerent Captures; with observations on the Answer to War in Disguise and Mr. Madison's Examination. Shewing that the true interest of

America requires the rigid application of the British Rule of '56. New-York, Brisban & Brannan. 62½ Cents.

The Culex of Virgil; with a translation into English verse. By Lucius M. Sargent. 8vo. pp. 44. Boston, printed at the Emerald Press, by Belcher & Armstrong. 1807.

Transactions of the Society of Duchess County for the promotion of Agriculture; with select Essays on Rural Economy, chosen from various authors, and published by order of the Society, Vol. 1, No. 1. Poughkeepsie:

A Statement of Facts relative to the late proceedings in Harvard College; Cambridge. Published by the Students: 12mo. pp. 12. Boston, April 10, 1807.

Don Quixotes at College, or, a history of the gallant adventures lately achieved by the combined students of Harvard University; interspersed by some facetious reasonings. By a Senior.

8vo. pp. 20. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss, for the author.

No. 1. of the *New-Milk Cheese*, or the *Comi-Heroick Thunderclap*, a semi-globular publication, without beginning and without end. By Van Tromp, (of the honourable society of Knights Errant.) 8vo. pp. 24. Boston, printed at the Van Tromp Press. 1807.

Letters occasioned by Rev. Samuel Worcester's two Discourses on the perpetuity and provision of God's gracious covenant with Abraham and his seed; detecting, by plain scripture, stubborn facts, and sober reason, some of his gross misrepresentations, unfounded assertions, and sophistical arguments. By Daniel Merrill, A. M. pastor of the church of Christ in Sedgwick. 12mo. pp. 92. Boston, Manning & Loring

An Address, pronounced at Hatfield, on the 4th March, 1807, in commemoration of the inauguration of Thomas Jefferson, as President of the United States. By Samuel Brazer, jun.

An Essay on the Human Character of Jesus Christ. By William Austin. 12mo. pp. 120. Boston; William Pelham—price 75-cents.

The importance of preaching the Word of God, in a plain distinguishing, and faithful manner. A sermon, delivered at the ordination of the Rev. Josiah W. Cannon, to the pastoral care of the church and congregation in Gill, (Mass.) By Theophilus Packard, A. M. pastor of the church in Shelburne. Greenfield, J. Denio.

A discourse, delivered at the dedication of the new academy in Fryeburg, June 4, 1806. By the Rev. Nathaniel Porter, A. M. Portland. Thomas B. Wait. 1806.

A sermon, delivered at Ashburnham, May 22, 1806, at the interment of Mr. John Cusling, jun. who expired at the house of his father. By Seth Payson, A. M. pastor in Rindge. Leominster, (Mas.) S. & J. Wilder.

A discourse delivered next Lord's day after the interment of deacon Peter Whitney, who departed this life Dec. 9, 1805, in the 60th year of his age. By Nathanael Emmons, D. D. pastor of the church in Franklin. Providence. Heath & Williams.

A sermon delivered at Hartford, January 6, 1807, at the funeral of the Rev. James Cogswell, D. D. late pastor of the church in Scotland, in the town of Windham. By Nathan

Strong, pastor of the north Presbyterian church in Hartford. Hartford. Hudson & Goodwin. 1807.

NEW EDITIONS OF WORKS.

The *New American Practical Navigator*: being an epitome of navigation; containing all the tables necessary to be used with the nautical almanack, in determining the latitude and the longitude by lunar observations; and keeping a complete reckoning at sea: illustrated by proper rules and examples: the whole exemplified in a journal, kept from Boston to Madeira, in which all the rules of navigation are introduced. Also, the demonstration of the most useful rules of Trigonometry: With many useful problems in Mensuration, Surveying, and Gauging: And a dictionary of sea-terms; with the manner of performing the most common evolutions at sea. To which are added, some general instructions and information to merchants, masters of vessels, and others, concerned in Navigation, relative to Maritime Laws and Mercantile Customs. By Nathaniel Bowditch, fellow of the American academy of arts and sciences. Illustrated with copper-plates, engraved by Hooker. Second edition, with many improvements.—Newburyport, E. M. Blunt, (proprietor) for Wm. Andrews, No. 1, Cornhill, Boston. 8vo. pp. 680. May, 1807.

A new system of Domestic Cookery, formed upon principles of economy, and adapted to the use of private families. By a Lady. 12mo. pp. 295. Boston, Wm. Andrews. 1807.

Memoirs of Marmontel, written by himself. Containing his literary and political life, and anecdotes of the principal characters of the eighteenth century. First American edition. In two volumes. Vol. I. pp. 117. Vol. II. 208. 12mo. New-York, Brisban & Brannan.

A Voyage to Terra Firma, on the Spanish main, in South America, during the years 1803 and 4. By F. Depons, formerly agent of the French government at Carracas; with a very large map of the country, &c. 3 vols. 8vo. price \$6.50, boards. New-York, Brisban & Brannan.

Select Lives of Foreigners, eminent for piety; containing biographical sketches of the archbishop of Cambray, Michael de Molinos, Peter Poirct, Antonia Bourignon, Marquis de Renty,

Francis de Sales, and Gregory Lopez—together with directions for a holy life, and the attaining christian perfection. By the Archbishop of Cambray. Price 50 cents. Philadelphia, B. & T. Kite.

A scripture account of the faith and practice of christians, consisting of an extensive collection of pertinent texts of scripture, given at large upon the various articles of revealed religion; reduced into distinct sections, so as to embrace all the various branches of each subject; the motives to the belief or practice of the doctrines taught, and the threatenings, promises, rewards, punishments, &c. annexed, addressed to the understandings, the hopes, and the fears of christians. The whole forming a complete Concordance, to all the articles of faith or practice. taught in the holy scriptures. By Hugh Gaston, V. D. M. 1 vol. large 8vo. \$2.25. Philadelphia, D. Hogan.

The Pleasures of Hope, with other Poems. By Thomas Campbell. 12mo. Cambridge, Wm. Hilliard. 1807.

A Poem on the restoration of Learning in the East; which obtained Mr. Buchanan's prize. By Charles Grant, Esq. M. A. fellow of Magdalen college. 8vo. pp. 40. Salem, Cushing & Appleton.

The wild Irish girl, a national Tale, by Miss Owenson, author of 'St. Clair, the Novice of St. Dominick, &c. &c.' 1 vol. 12mo. price one Dollar and twenty-five cents. Philadelphia, T. S. Manning.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Vol. III. of Massachusetts General Laws. 4to. Boston, Manning & Loring.
The Birds of Scotland. 12mo. Boston, John West.

Vol. II. of Doddridge's Works. 8vo. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

Vol. I. of Rollin's Ancient History. 8vo. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

No. V. of the Christian Monitor.—12mo. pp. 192. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

Ballads, by Walter Scott, author of the Lay of the Last Minstrel. 12mo. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

A Chymical Catechism for the use of young people: with copious notes for the assistance of the teacher; to which are added a vocabulary of chymical terms, useful tables, and a variety of amusing experiments. By S. Parkes,

manufacturing chymist. 1 vol. large octavo, price \$2. Philadelphia, James Humphreys.

Vol. 3d of The Works of the Right Honourable Edmund Burke. Boston: John West, and Oliver C. Greenleaf.

A new novel, entitled, Ira and Isabella. By a Gentleman of Boston.—12mo. 75 cents, extra boards. Boston, Belcher & Armstrong.

Daniel Johnson, of Portland, is printing a Treatise on Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. By Joseph Chitty, Esq. of the Middle Temple.

Pieces of Irish History, illustrative of the origin and progress of the political system of the United Irishmen, and of their transactions with the Anglo Irish government. Published by James MacNeven. N. York, Bernard Dornin.

A treatise on the principles of Eloquence; adapted to the pulpit and the bar. By the Abbe Maury. 8vo. \$2. New-York, Thompson, Hart & Co.

Anquetil's Universal history, exhibiting the rise, decline, and revolutions of all the nations of the world from the creation to the present time, in nine vols. 8vo. price two dollars per vol. is now publishing by C. P. Wayne. Philadelphia. Four volumes have been published, the fifth will soon be ready, and the whole work completed without delay.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

The Elements of Chemistry. By M. I. A. Chaptal, formerly professor of chemistry at Montpellier. With great additions and improvements; two new chapters on the nitrous oxyd and oxyd of carbon, and two new plates of chemical apparatus, which can be made in any part of the United States, and with which an immense number of experiments can be performed. By James Woodhouse, M. D. professor of chemistry in the University of Pennsylvania. To be comprised in two 8vo. vols. of about 400 pages each; price to subscribers \$1.75 per vol. in boards, or \$2.25 bound and lettered. Richmond, Vir. Jacob Johnson.

Politicks for farmers and mechanicks, corrected and enlarged. Two editions, one in boards on superfine paper, the other in the pamphlet form. Philadelphia, Wm. Duane.

The essays of Lord Francis Bacon, with a sketch of his life. First Amer-

ican edition. The work will be comprised in one volume 12mo. making about 250 pages. Price to subscribers \$1 in extra boards. Boston, Oliver & Munroe.

Select Sermons of the late Rev. Samuel Stillman, D. D. comprising several sermons never before printed. To which will be prefixed a more particular biographical account of Dr. Stillman than has heretofore been published. 8vo. 400 pages. To subscribers \$2 bound and lettered. Boston, Manning & Loring.

Orations, delivered at the request of the inhabitants of the town of Boston, to commemorate the evening of the fifth of March, 1770. 1 vol. 12mo. 200 pages. To subscribers \$1, extra brds. Boston, William T. Clap.

Anthony Boucherie, of Philadelphia, proposes publishing by subscription in 2 vols. 8vo. of about 500 pages each, price \$6, *The Merchant's Unerring Guide to the East India and China Trade*: Drawn from the observations and notes of Pierre Blancard, an experienced merchant and navigator in the Asiatick seas. By Anthony Boucherie.

European Commerce, shewing new and secure channels of trade with the continent of Europe: detailing the produce, manufactures, and commerce of Russia, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, and Germany; as well as the trade of the rivers Elbe, Weser, and Ems, with a general view of the trade, navigation, produce, and manufactures of Great-Britain and Ireland; and its unexplored and improveable resources and interior wealth. By J. Jepson Oddy, member of the Russia and Turkey or Levant companies. Two vols. large 8vo. Price to subscribers \$3 a vol. in boards. Philadelphia, J. Humphreys.

John Wyeth, of Haysburgh, (P.) proposes to publish by subscription, the *Moral and Religious Miscellany*, or sixty-one Aphoretical Essays, on some of the most important Christian Doctrines and Virtues, by Hugh Knox, D. D. in St. Croix.

STATEMENT OF DISEASES, &c.
from March 20 to April 20.

HIGHEST station of the barometer 30.2. on the 18th day of April.

Lowest, 28.7. on the 31st day of March.

Greatest heat, on the 20th day of April, 70°.

Least heat, on the 1st day of April, 30°.

Prevalent winds from the east.

Little disease has been seen, during this month, compared to those, which preceded. The most prevalent complaint has been pneumonic inflammation; with this disorder children particularly have been affected. Reliques of the influenza, which has prevailed, are now and then seen, and they sometimes have constituted an obstinate and formidable disease.

The cow-pock inoculation has been generally resumed.

EDITORS' NOTES.

ALTHOUGH it is contrary to the general rules which we have prescribed to ourselves to admit controversial discussions as to the merit of opinions and principles, advanced in any speculations which we publish, because the zeal and animosity of the disputants would soon fill our publication and thus exclude more useful matter; yet, as the letter from a Roman Catholic is written in a liberal and gentlemanly style, and as the author of the letters, which he attacks, is perfectly willing that an explanation should take place, we think proper in *this instance* to depart from our general rule, most devoutly wishing, that it may be the end of the controversy.

In justice however to our correspondent, whose letters we are publishing, and at his request, we add, that he is happy to find so respectable a Roman catholic denying, that indulgences, either in their origin or in their abuse, have ever been applied to the encouragement of crimes, by affording cheap and certain modes of obtaining remission of sins, and that he feels fully convinced, that the personal character of the gentlemen, at the head of the Catholic establishment in Boston, is a sufficient pledge that no such misapplication of the power will ever take place here.

But that the 'Roman Catholic' may be convinced, that our correspondent,

although 'so ignorant that even the beggars of Loretto might have taught him better,' is not singular in his ignorance, we take the liberty to make a quotation from the British Encyclopædia, omitting the most bitter and severe passages, which might justly offend the Roman Catholic. See article *Indulgences*. 'Indulgences are a remission of the punishment due to sins, granted by the Romish church, and supposed to save a sinner from purgatory.' The form of one of them, quoted in the Encyclopædia, is as follows, 'May our Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on thee, and absolve thee by the merits of his most holy passion; and I by his authority and that of his blessed apostles Peter and Paul, and of the most holy pope, do absolve thee, first from all ecclesiastical censure, which thou mayest have incurred; then from all thy sins how enormous soever they may be, even from such as are reserved for the cognizance of the holy see. I remit to you all punishment which you deserve in purgatory on their account,' &c. &c.

It is not perceived, that there is any material distinction between licenses to commit offences, and pardons and remissions after they are committed; provided these pardons are granted of course, and for certain fixed and stated prices. Now that these indulgences were sold and at certain fixed rates, we are informed by many writers; but it may be as well to consult the standard work above quoted, which states, 'that the terms in which the retailers of indulgences described their benefits, and the necessity of purchasing them, are so extravagant, that they are almost incredible. The popes are now more sparing of this favour, but they still carry on a great trade with them to the Indies, where they are sold at two rials a piece, and sometimes more.'

The author of the letters from Rome might perhaps make an answer equally satisfactory, or at least adduce authorities equally respectable, for all the opinions which he has advanced; but it would lead to a discussion exceeding the limits, which we have prescribed to ourselves. He would probably find very little difficulty in proving the intolerance and spirit of persecution, which prevailed in the Roman catholic church in its days of prosperity; nor would he think this practice in any de-

gree justified by the conduct of the protestants in any country, who, stimulated by revenge, and other passions equally opposed to the true spirit of christianity, may have sometimes imitated, though very humbly, this very bad example of the ancient catholics. With respect to the catholics in this country, though it might be thought a little ridiculous in them to boast of their not exhibiting here a spirit of persecution, yet we are authorised by the author of the letters from Italy to declare, that he has the highest respect for the learned, pious, and respectable gentlemen, at the head of that church in Boston; that he is convinced of the utility and importance of their labours, and that he is sorry that any free and general remarks, applicable to certain abuses in the church of Rome, should be thought by them to bear, in the smallest degree, upon the opinions and principles of men, whom he wishes to believe incapable of countenancing all the errors and absurdities, which have crept into the practice of the catholics in some countries.

ERRATA.

As a number of errors escaped us in the first impression, we hope our readers will excuse the repetition of the following latin lines:

Nax erat illius, callique ex culmine fluxit
 Nil, Boreasque ferox turbine late ruit.
 Fœmina quum, infelix, callique ignara patentes,
 Infantem amplectens trîstia verba dedit.
 'sævus erat genitor, qui me chara sede repulit;'
 Sic vendi, qui plent pectora mœsta gelu.
 Sævior is longe qui uxoris brachia liquit;
 'Hic mihi, pro dira pellice blanda fuit;
 Tu puer infelix fove membra in pectore trîsti
 Nam satis cæ suavis, grandinis atque feræ.
 Frigore vix! torpent concreto parvula membra;
 Oh! renovent lacrymæ quæ matris ora rigant.
 Infelix! infans obit; genitorque recubat
 Et virgat sævus detestatisse torum.
 Dein cecidit! plorans ex imo corde dolorem
 Fatalisque cito corpora languor habet
 Atque insauti juxta infans membra ponebat
 Atque cubans obit. (Sic sacra Mith. cant.)

In the latin poetry by L. M. Sargent, published in the Anthology for March, line 16, for *miserus* read *miseris*; line 39, for *Horrens* read *Horrificans*; line 41, for *Deu* read *Dea*.

Page 158, middle of the first column, for *seldom* read *sold or*.

Page 164, for *cume* read *cum*; and for *voriamur* read *moriamur*.

ADDENDUM.

Page 152, 2d column, line 14 from bottom, before *bodies* insert *white*.

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,

FOR
MAY, 1807.

BOSTON ATHENEUM.

The following MEMOIR, concerning the history, objects, and present state of the Boston Athenæum, with the terms and principles, on which the rights and privileges of the institution shall be possessed and exercised, and with remarks on the MERITS of the design, is respectfully submitted to the friends of improvement.

HISTORY, OBJECTS, AND PRESENT STATE.

FOR several years individuals in this metropolis have expressed their wishes, that there might be established here a public Reading-Room; to be kept constantly open, and to contain all the valuable journals, foreign and domestic, periodical publications, books of general reference, and other works adapted to such a place of resort. It has been thought, that an establishment of this kind, which is very common both in the large and small cities of Europe, would, if commenced here, receive liberal support, and be regarded as auxiliary to literature and to business; useful to the publick, and honourable to its founders and patrons. Having these impressions of the merit and popularity of the object, a society of gentlemen, who conduct a literary publication,* during the last year issued proposals, in which they engaged to provide a room of the forementioned description, open at ten dollars annually to each subscriber. The design was so favourably received, and so diligently pursued, that the subscription list was soon filled with a large number of respectable names. In consequence of this success, and in compliance with the wishes of many patrons of the undertaking, it was determined to extend the plan by adding a Library to the foundation. There was no room to doubt, that this addition might be made, and still the engagements

relative to the Reading-Room be more than executed. By the time the journals and periodical publications were received, more than a thousand volumes of valuable works, principally donations, were collected and annexed to the institution. At this stage of the undertaking, the gentlemen, who had commenced and so far conducted it, in order more effectually to secure and diffuse the benefit of their past labour and expense, and realize their wishes of a respectable establishment, transferred their right and title in the Anthology Reading-Room and Library to certain persons denominated Trustees, with power to supply vacancies in their number, and to hold and manage said Reading-Room and Library, as a trust, under their then present name; or to become a body corporate under the same or any other name, as they might deem expedient. The Trustees proceeded to open the rooms in such apartments and with such inspection, as they could conveniently obtain; but which they have since changed from Congress-street to Scollay's buildings, Tremont-street, where the subscribers are invited, and where they will find a degree of order and attention, which the former situation did not admit. At the same time they issued a printed sheet, containing regulations and by-laws for the conduct of the institution, which remain in force in respect to annual subscribers, and which will undoubtedly be, in substance, adop-

* The Monthly Anthology.

ted under the new form, which the establishment may assume, pursuant to the act of incorporation.

The Trustees conceived it expedient, and immediately took measures, to procure an act of incorporation for themselves and their future associates. In the act for this purpose, with a view to meet the sentiments and wishes of respectable persons friendly to the general design, they obtained powers to comprehend, in the establishment, other objects, relative to the sciences and arts, to be provided for in such an extent, as may consist with the primary design of founding a Library and Reading-Room. By these means, when the whole plan of the institution shall be executed, it will be subservient not only to the acquisition, but to the communication of knowledge; answering the double purpose of inquiry and instruction. In consequence of this enlargement of the plan, a name of more extensive signification, than the former one, was adopted, and the Trustees, with their associates, are made a body corporate by the title of the Proprietors of the BOSTON ATHENÆUM.

The Proprietors have entered upon the execution of the powers, vested in them by the act of incorporation. After the choice of the necessary officers, they proceeded to devise methods for increasing the funds of the said corporation, and extending the rights and privileges, which they had acquired. The result of their deliberations is here communicated.

That the nature and design of the establishment may fully appear, having offered a sketch of the *history*, they will next give a particular account of the

Objects of the Athenæum.

The first department of the Athenæum is the READING-ROOM, which it is proposed to have large and commodious. It is to be furnished with seats, tables, pens, ink, and paper; and to contain all the celebrated gazettes, published in any part of the United States, with the most interesting literary and political pamphlets in Europe and

America, with magazines, reviews, and scientific journals in the English, French, and other modern languages, memoirs of learned societies, London and Paris newspapers, Steele's army and navy list, naval chronicle, London and Paris booksellers' catalogues, parliamentary debates, bibliographical works, journals of the congress of the United States, laws of congress and of the state legislatures, American state papers, maps, charts, the latest voyages and travels, and the interesting publications of the day, as they appear. The gazettes, magazines, and pamphlets, journals, state papers, &c. to be bound in volumes, and carefully preserved for the use of the institution.

The next branch of the Athenæum is the LIBRARY, designed to contain, in a separate apartment, the works of learning and science in all languages; particularly such rare and expensive publications, as are not generally to be obtained in this country; the most valuable encyclopedias of the arts and sciences in the English and French languages; standard dictionaries of the learned and principal modern languages; also dictionaries, critical and biographical; books of general reference, useful to the merchant and the scholar; and finally, the works of all the best authors, ancient and modern.

These apartments are to be open during every week-day and evening. None of the papers or periodical works are to be taken from the rooms, except in the case of the indisposition of any proprietor or subscriber, who may have the use of the newspapers at his house, at some convenient time after their arrival, under such regulations, as shall be prescribed. Duplicates are to be provided of all those books permitted to circulate, it being intended that one copy of every work belonging to the Library shall always remain in it; so that the proprietors and visitors of the Athenæum may be certain at all times of finding any work, which they may have occasion to read or consult.

The Reading-Room and Library, being considered leading objects and chief departments of the Athenæum, it is proposed, as far as can be done without detriment to them, to join to the foundation a MUSEUM or CABINET, which shall contain specimens from the three kingdoms of nature, scientifically arranged; natural and artificial curiosities, antiques, coins, medals, vases, gems, and intaglios; also, in the same or a different apartment, a REPOSITORY OF ARTS, in which shall be placed for inspection models of new and useful machines; likewise drawings, designs, paintings, engravings, statues, and other objects of the fine arts, and especially the productions of our native artists.

Lastly...the plan of the Athenæum includes a LABORATORY, and an APPARATUS for experiments in chemistry and natural philosophy, for astronomical observations, and geographical improvements, to be used under the direction of the corporation.

The history of this establishment, and a description of its objects being given, it is proper to exhibit

The means, resources, and present state of the Athenæum.

The Reading-Room is largely supplied with the works mentioned above, and is receiving daily additions.

The Library already contains many interesting and important works. The number of volumes is more than twelve hundred, and is continually increasing by donations and deposits, as well as by purchase. There is reason to believe, that, when the apartments shall be sufficiently capacious to admit them, one or more of the libraries, belonging to particular societies or individuals, will be annexed to the Athenæum, or be placed on the shelves of its Library.

The means and resources, now possessed by this institution, are...

1st...The annual subscription; there being one hundred and sixty subscribers, at ten dollars a year.

2nd...The American papers and

publications, with several periodical publications from abroad, are furnished by the proprietors of the Monthly Anthology free of expense; and the net funds of the same work are appropriated to the support and increase of the Reading-Room and Library.

3rd...An apparatus of value, belonging to a society for the study of natural philosophy, is offered to be incorporated with the Athenæum on favourable conditions; so that this part of the establishment cannot, at present, require any considerable expense.

4th...It is well to observe, that, as the institution shall advance in importance and celebrity, donations and legacies may be expected to prove a source of continual additions to the various departments of the Athenæum.

To those, who consider this account of the history, objects, and present state of the institution, it will readily occur, that an essential requisite to its enlargement and prosperity is a suitable building in a central part of the town. It will also occur, that the present proprietors are bound to extend the rights, powers, and privileges of proprietors of the Athenæum to others on proper conditions. With a view, therefore, to diffuse and perpetuate the benefits and enjoyments of this establishment, and to raise the necessary funds for a building and other purposes, relative to the general object, the present proprietors offer the plan and terms of subscription to the Boston Athenæum, which are annexed to this memoir.

The objects, the situation, the resources and prospects of this institution being described, and the terms of admission to an interest and power in it proposed, the subject might here be left, without further comment, to the consideration of the enlightened and liberal, in the confidence that all the inducements, public and private, to espouse the establishment, will have their just operation. But though it may not be necessary, yet it may be useful

and tend to prevent misconception and remove doubt, to show the *merits of the design*, and to justify the method devised for carrying it into effect.

In the apprehension of those, who invite the publick attention to the subject, this institution deserves approbation and support, as productive of utility and enjoyment; as ornamental to the metropolis, and honourable to its patrons. They also conceive, that it is proposed at a suitable time; and that it involves no extravagant demand upon the pecuniary resources, from which the necessary funds are expected.

The Athenæum may be recommended as a place of social intercourse. But it will principally be useful as a source of information, and a means of intellectual improvement and pleasure. It is to be a fountain, at which all, who choose, may gratify their thirst for knowledge.

The value of learning, whatever incidental evils it may produce, is admitted by all, who are qualified to judge upon the subject. Besides the dignity and satisfaction associated with the cultivation of letters and arts, and which constitute their worth to the individual, they have unlimited uses in respect to the community. Speculative and practical philosophy, history, polite literature, and the arts, bear an important relation to all the conveniences and elegancies of life, to all the good institutions of society, and to all the great interests of man, viewed as a rational and social, a moral and religious being. Not only, however, should those deep investigations of science and exquisite refinements of taste, which are necessarily confined to a few, be held in respect, as connected with the general welfare; but that love of intellectual improvement and pleasure, and that propensity to reading and inquiry, which are capable of being diffused through considerable portions of the community, should be regarded with interest and promoted with zeal, among a civilized and flourishing people. They belong to

the regular progress of society; a nation, that increases in wealth, without any corresponding increase in knowledge and refinement, in letters and arts, neglects the proper and respectable uses of prosperity. A love of intellectual improvement, and of the various objects of literature and taste, in a state or society enjoying freedom and affluence, is to be coveted and maintained, because it produces the best exercise and application of the faculties; because it strengthens and multiplies the ties, that bind men together; because it enhances the value and satisfaction of social intercourse by supplying worthy and interesting topics of conversation; because it heightens the enjoyment of all the blessings of life, and enables us to derive advantage and pleasure from a multitude of new sources; because, on the whole, it tends to the removal of error and the discovery of truth, and has a friendly aspect upon the interests of virtue and religion.

When we admit the dignity and use of the science of the learned, the taste of the refined, and the improved and cultivated character of the citizens at large, we must also admit, that these objects require a fostering care, and will not be obtained without adequate means and incentives. That the institution here proposed, if well begun and liberally supported, must prove in a high degree auxiliary to these purposes will not, it is presumed, be called in question.

The Athenæum will contain a variety, adapted to the diversity of the dispositions, views, and characters of its patrons and visitors.

Every class of readers must derive profit and pleasure from a constant access to the foreign and domestick journals, and the periodical publications and pamphlets of the day. They must resort, with great advantage to a place in which will be found the latest political and commercial intelligence, accounts of the state of literature, arts, and discoveries, the controversies and discussions, that successively prevail, and those fugitive pieces and

small tracts, which is so difficult or impossible for any individual to collect, but which are necessary to satisfy our curiosity, or complete our information concerning the opinions, events, learning, politicks, and manners of the times in which we live. In proportion as this department of the Library and Reading-Room shall be replenished by the accumulations of successive years, its value will be enhanced; and it will descend to posterity a rich and increasing treasure.

By resorting to the Athenaeum the man of business will have the means of intellectual activity and enjoyment, without any injurious interruption of his ordinary pursuits, or "the more urgent concerns of life;" and the man of leisure will find ample means of rational and interesting occupation.

The inquisitive merchant must prize the opportunity of being able to consult a large collection of those works, which relate to commerce; as well as find an accommodation in the early and exact commercial intelligence from various and opposite regions of the globe, which the papers and documents in the Reading-Room will generally furnish.

The researches of those, who attend to the constitution of society, the form and administration of governments, politicks, and finance, must be greatly facilitated by the assemblage, in one place, of the best and newest treatises upon these subjects of inquiry, of statistical tables and works, and state papers.

The historian, and the reader of history, will here be able to perfect their information by a recourse to standard works of general and particular history; and especially such as relate to our own country. It is intended, that this institution shall co-operate with others, appropriated to this object, by procuring, as soon as circumstances admit, every tract, book, and journal, serving to illustrate the civil and natural, the literary and ecclesiastical history of America, and more particularly of the United States.

Gentlemen of each of the learned professions must derive impor-

tant assistance, in their respective pursuits, from the liberty of consulting both those fugitive and periodical publications, which may exhibit the history and state of their respective professions, and the sciences and arts, on which they are founded, at successive periods; and also those large, valuable, and expensive works, which it may be inconvenient to most individuals to purchase.

To men of letters, and studious inquirers in general, this establishment will offer facilities in study, hitherto not enjoyed; but highly desirable and even necessary. In this country nothing can exceed the inconvenience, arising from the want of large libraries to those persons, who aim at superiour attainments and accurate researches. This is one of the circumstances, which account for the small number of finished scholars and finished works, of which we have to boast. As much time, as is necessary for reading a particular book, is often consumed in attempts to discover or obtain it; and frequently, after every inquiry, the book wanted cannot be procured. Those who, not content with superficial knowledge, would arrive at exactness in any subjects of science, history, or taste, either give over their pursuit, because destitute of the assistance, which the learned in the same walk have furnished, or continue it under the disadvantage of their ignorance of what has been done by their predecessors. Hence they are liable to be occupied in "solving difficulties, which have already been cleared; discussing questions, which have already been decided; and digging in mines of literature, which former ages have exhausted." If the uses of this institution were more immediately confined, than they are, to literary men, or to those who wish to perfect themselves in sciences and literature, it would be worthy of the munificent spirit of our opulent citizens to give effect to a plan for affording to persons, ambitious of superiour acquisitions, the means of extensive knowledge, and the

gratification of an adequate supply of books.

The good effects, which this establishment may have respecting young persons, deserve particular attention. Where they are of proper age and deportment, they will have access to the rooms of the Athenæum on the same terms as others. The attractions of the place will induce many of them to pass that time in useful reading; which is now wasted or misapplied. Their resort to this fund of instruction and entertainment will tend to inspire them with laudable curiosity. It will serve to withdraw them from gross relaxations and hurtful pleasures, by the desire of enlarging their minds and improving their taste. Parents, who consider the temptations surrounding young men, and the connexion between employment and innocence, will not regard this use of the Athenæum with indifference.

The ladies have at least an indirect interest in this design. Whatever raises the character of men has a favourable influence upon that of the other sex. Undoubtedly when the citizens are sensible and well informed, the intercourse of the sexes is proportionably more rational and agreeable. But if the progress of the institution shall be equal to the wishes and expectations of its friends, it will include a plan of instruction by lectures, on which the ladies will be invited to attend. By their admission to this privilege, as well as by the use of the circulating books of the library, and the right of access to the other apartments, they will have more than an indirect share in the advantages of the Athenæum.

To these different classes of persons, in the several ways described, this institution, and particularly the Library and Reading-Room, will be useful. To the same persons, to others, and to the publick, must the subordinate branches of the Athenæum prove beneficial. The *Repository of Models* is adapted to promote the speedy and general knowledge of new and use-

ful improvements, relating to the necessary arts and trades, and will be resorted to by artisans with particular advantage.

It is well known, that a taste in the fine and pleasing arts cannot be formed, without specimens to serve for example and illustration. By a *Repository* for productions in these arts, we shall provide for the improvement and emulation of artists, and for the correction and refinement of taste in those, who aim to be connoisseurs, and able to bestow praise and censure with discrimination. It concerns the publick interest, as well as honour, that the higher classes of society, and possessors of superfluous wealth, should prefer elegant and innoxious luxuries to those of a different character; and should be patrons and judges of what is excellent in the fine and liberal arts.

The Museum, by its collection of natural objects, scientifically arranged, will both excite and gratify that disposition to study nature, which is always safe, and sometimes profitable and important, by means of the discoveries and improvements to which it leads. This department of the institution will preserve, for constant inspection, a multitude of productions, natural and artificial, either curious or useful, brought from different countries, which are not now obtained; or being obtained, are lost through want of a proper receptacle, in which they may be placed.

The Laboratory and Apparatus may be used, when it shall be found practicable, for the purpose of lectures on chemistry, natural philosophy, and astronomy. The usefulness of a course of popular instruction upon these and other related subjects, calculated to interest the young of both sexes, and to diffuse as well as extend the knowledge of the laws and operations of nature, need not be displayed.

In these respects it is conceived the proposed institution will be productive of utility.

If it is viewed, in the next place, as a source of rational enjoyment, it will appear to merit

the support it requires. It is obvious to all, who attend to human nature, or the history of human society; and it is verified by observing the state of manners in our own country, that affluence and prosperity are ever attended by a correspondent passion for amusement and pleasure in their diversified forms. It is equally obvious, that whatever serves to correct and regulate this passion is an additional security to publick and private morals. In this view it must be acknowledged important, not only to check that dissipation, which enervates and depraves, but also to moderate and qualify a propensity to what are deemed less exceptionable modes of pleasure...to show and equipage, convivial entertainments, festive assemblies, and theatrical exhibitions. One effectual method of accomplishing this purpose is to promote a relish for the pleasures of knowledge, and a taste for liberal pursuits and studies. The satisfactions, flowing from these sources, tend to strengthen, not debilitate, the mind; to subdue, not inflame the passions. They are friendly to cheerfulness and the social virtues, and serve to disengage the feelings from ignoble gratifications. In these respects therefore, as tending to substitute mental occupation for sensual indulgence, and to create a fund of rational and salutary enjoyments in a place and state of society, where the love of pleasure and the means of it are continually augmenting, and where expense is not grudged to amusements of a different nature, it is presumed this institution will be thought to deserve the countenance of the wise and patriotick.

It will not be pretended, that the use and necessity of this institution, for the purposes described, are superseded by any establishments already existing in the town: however valuable they may be in themselves, or adapted to their particular objects. All the departments of the Athenæum, excepting the Library, are new, and not included in the plan of any other publick es-

tablishment; and the Library is constituted upon principles and with regulations, by means of which it does not interfere with the interest of any other in operation, and at the same time is fitted to answer the exigencies of science and literature. Besides, when the building for the Athenæum shall be erected, other libraries, if their proprietors choose, may be united with this, or placed on its shelves and thus be rendered more secure, more accessible and useful, than their present situations admit.

It was observed, that this institution will be *ornamental* to the metropolis. In the form of the building, the distribution of the rooms, and the selection and arrangement of the various objects they will contain, neatness and elegance will be consulted along with convenience.

This establishment, it was said, will confer honour on its patrons. For it must be acknowledged honourable to apply wealth to some of its noblest uses; to join to a spirit of commercial enterprize a just estimate of the value of letters and arts; and to lay a permanent foundation for their cultivation and advancement thro' successive periods.

The example and success of the more wealthy inhabitants of other cities at home and abroad, in originating and conducting similar undertakings, are worthy of attention as calculated both to guide and to stimulate our liberality.

The Athenæum of Liverpool has been visited with delight and admiration by numbers of our countrymen; and it is but one of several institutions of a like nature in that city. It includes a publick news-room of a superior kind, occupying the ground floor of 2000 square feet; and a library, of a narrower base, but greater elevation, lying over the first, and lighted from above. It was begun in January, 1798, for three hundred and fifty subscribers, who were to pay ten guineas each, as a capital, and two guineas annually. The whole was completed for 4000l. sterling. After six months, it being found sufficient for the accommodation of a larger num-

ber, seventy-five new subscriptions were admitted at 20 guineas each. At the end of a year, seventy-five more, at thirty guineas each, were admitted; and the shares immediately rose to thirty-five and forty guineas. Thus a large sum was added to the capital of the institution; and the income, destined to the increase and support of the Library, was at that time estimated at four hundred guineas annually.

The city of London is known to have abounded for ages with foundations for the sciences, literature, and arts. Two have within a few years been added to those before existing, and supported with a liberality, which we cannot indeed be expected to rival; but which we may properly imitate, according to our exigencies and means. One of these is the Royal Institution, commenced under the auspices of our countryman, Count Rumford, designed for "diffusing the knowledge and facilitating the introduction of useful mechanical inventions and improvements; and for teaching, by courses of philosophical lectures and experiments, the application of science to the common purposes of life." Another is the London Institution, having three objects—

"1. The acquisition of a valuable and extensive library...2. The diffusion of useful knowledge by means of lectures and experiments...3. The establishment of a reading-room, where the foreign and domestick journals and other periodical works, and the best pamphlets and new publications, are provided for the use of the proprietors and subscribers." The persons, having the benefit of these institutions are classed much in the manner proposed in the Boston Athenæum, consisting of hereditary proprietors, life subscribers, annual subscribers, and occasional visitors. Within a few hours after the proposals for the London institution were issued, all the shares were taken to the amount of 100,000*l.* stl.

Establishments, similar to these, but upon a smaller scale, are found in other cities of Great-Britain, probably inferior in opulence and population to this metropolis; and

they are provided in the populous places of other countries in Europe. If we look to the principal towns and cities in our own country; though in general liberality, and in some instances, in disbursements for objects of science and the interests of education, we may court a comparison, yet, in *this mode* of patronizing literature, we find them before us. The Charleston Library Society, incorporated in 1754, has made very respectable progress in collecting books. The rooms are open during the principal part of every day, and afford a place of resort for reading and conversation. The merchants and scholars of Baltimore have recently provided themselves with an ample institution of the same kind. The library of the Philadelphia Library Company is well known. It was founded in 1731. Before the year 1769 other social libraries, which had been erected, were annexed to this. In late years it has been much augmented by donations and purchases; and is advancing to great splendour and utility. In the same city an institution, for the fine arts alone, has been commenced with an endowment nearly as large, as would be necessary to put the more extensive design here proposed into operation.

In the city of New-York much has recently been done for the promotion of these objects.

The cultivated character and the liberal spirit of the Bostonians have been subjects of encomium. It is probable, that the countenance, afforded to this proposal, will furnish a new instance to justify their claim to this praise.

This institution, it was said, is proposed at a suitable time. It bears a correspondence to the advancement of society and the state of the metropolis. Boston now contains a sufficient number of those, who need, or who can enjoy and improve, the advantages and pleasures of the Athenæum. There is a prevailing opinion, that objects of this kind should now engage attention. As a long course of time will be necessary for the maturity and

perfection of the design, it is certainly not too soon to begin. Whatever be the embarrassments and hazards, attending the prosecution of our commerce, it is notwithstanding highly productive, and the class of persons, enjoying easy circumstances and possessing surplus wealth, is comparatively numerous. As we are not called upon for large contributions to national purposes, we shall do well to take advantage of the exemption, by taxing ourselves for those institutions, which will be attended with lasting and extensive benefit, amidst all changes of our public fortunes and political affairs.

Finally it was said, that the proposal of this institution involves no extravagant demand upon the pecuniary resources of those, to whom it looks for support; and may be considered entirely practicable. Although it is projected upon a broad foundation, which will admit the expenditure of an indefinite sum, yet it may be commenced and prosecuted with limited means. The only requisite to its operation is a suitable building. This being provided, the income from annual subscribers, with donations, will probably be sufficient to secure its support and increase, if it will not give it splendour. But more than this may reasonably be wished and hoped. Not to mention what may be expected from life subscribers, it is only necessary, that one hundred and fifty persons shall be willing to vest in the Athenæum a sum for a capital, the interest of which is little more than the price of four half-weekly, and less than that of two daily papers, in order to raise a fund, which will put the institution in a very prosperous course; and which, besides procuring the building, will leave a considerable sum to be funded for annual use. By paying these three hundred dollars once, they will, without being subject to any subsequent expense secure to themselves, their assigns, and heirs, a right in an establishment, which is begun under favourable pros-

pects, and which must of course be acquiring additional value and importance every day. Under these circumstances, it may be said, without hesitation, that whilst the subscribers for shares in the Athenæum will have the satisfaction of being the patrons of an excellent design, they will, at the same time, be exposed to no sacrifice of property. For the shares being limited in number, subject to no assessment, and liable to be transferred and inherited, will always retain their value, and probably appreciate. The result of experience in similar institutions in Europe, commenced under no greater advantages than belong to the Athenæum, is entirely in favour of this calculation.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE BOSTON ATHENÆUM.

1. The estate, effects, and property of the Boston Athenæum shall be vested in the holders of shares, under the title of the Proprietors of the Boston Athenæum: the number of shares shall not exceed one hundred and fifty; and no individual shall hold more than three shares.

2. The price of each share is three hundred dollars; to be paid thirty-three and one third per cent. in sixty days, and the remainder in two equal payments, the first in one year, the second in two years, from the date of these proposals; notes to be given to the treasurer of the Athenæum for the amount, unless the subscriber shall choose to pay the whole sum at once.

RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF THE PROPRIETORS.

A proprietor shall have, for every share he may own, two tickets of admission to the Athenæum; one of said tickets transferable according to the regulations to be adopted; and he shall have the right of introducing strangers according to said regulations.

Every proprietor shall have a right to transfer his share or shares by will, or other instrument in writing; and his share or shares shall be inheritable personal property; these rights to be exercised under such limitations and in such form and manner, as the proprietors shall prescribe.

The subscribers for proprietors' shares shall not be required to pay any

further contribution, after the price of their shares shall have once been paid; and they shall be secured against all future claims and demands upon them on account of any debt, which the institution may contract.

LIFE SUBSCRIBERS.

It is also proposed to admit another class of subscribers called *Subscribers for Life*.

The price of a life share to be one hundred dollars; to be paid one half in 60 days, and the other half in 1 year.

Every such subscriber shall have one ticket of admission to every part of the Athenæum, transferable under such terms and conditions, as the proprietors may prescribe.

THE GOVERNMENT

of the Athenæum shall be in the Proprietors, or in such persons, as they shall choose from among themselves.

When shares to a sufficient number shall have been taken, the president

and secretary for the time being shall call a meeting of the subscribers for proprietors' shares; who, together with the present and then existing proprietors, shall enter upon the exercise of the powers vested in them; organize the corporation; designate and choose officers; devise means for increasing the funds of the institution, and direct the mode of applying them; take measures to erect or purchase the necessary buildings; determine the evidence, which each proprietor shall have of his shares; define and establish the rights of proprietors, life subscribers, annual subscribers, and occasional visitors; make such further regulations as shall be judged expedient; and generally execute all powers granted by the act of incorporation, and execute all powers granted by the act of incorporation, and expressed in the terms and conditions here published.

Boston, 8th May, 1807.

For the Anthology.

THE STUDENT, No. I.

“*Juvat iterare labores.*”

A SERIES of essays is intended, under this title, on a course of liberal and learned study, including references to authors, and an estimate of their respective merits. Such a discussion is surely important, and may be made interesting. It embraces topics, which ‘come home’ to the interests and feelings of a large portion of those, who honour this publication with their attention and patronage. Its editors have been compelled to abandon the expectation of universal acceptance, and have almost relinquished the hope, which was once indulged, that this miscellany should comprize, as well profound disquisitions and correct criticisms for the gratification of the learned, as anecdotes for the amusement of loungers, and light articles for the entertainment of triflers. Yielding the palm of *badinage* to some other of the publications in our metropolis, or our sis-

ter cities, we allow them, and will strive to suppress all envy at their happy lot, to be the companions of the toilette, the tea-table, and the sofa; we seek a place as well in the library of the student, as in the parlour of the reader of taste. We aspire at literary UTILITY: we hope for the reputation of promoting knowledge and the arts: we are even so arrogant, as to aim at scientific distinction. Of this, our high purpose and ambition, the plan now announced is intended to give evidence and illustration. Excuses for the imperfection of design, and defects of execution in these papers, would be, at this stage, worse than superfluous. However sincere these expressions of humility may be, they are too trite to be much regarded by the judicious, and too equivocal to be credited or heeded by the severe. A writer will exhibit, by his general style and

manner, his modest estimate of his own competence ; and this indirect appeal for candour will more avail with the liberal and enlightened, than the most balanced period or pointed turn of express apology. Taking encouragement from the *value* of our *design*, and animated by the confidence of deriving benefit from its pursuit, even should we unfortunately fail of imparting it ; we proceed to delineate the outlines of our plan, and the probable manner of executing it. Let such as patiently pursue the dull detail of this introductory number, take encouragement and consolation from the intelligence, that this department is expected to include the productions of several correspondents. Therefore no decision respecting its eventual worth can be formed from this first essay. This is but the rude sketch of a draughtsman ; but the superstructure will be reared by workmen of skill, ornamented with the polished columns of taste, and the finished decorations of genius. This is but the proclamation of a new soldier, sent forward as the herald of a little band of able and experienced veterans, who have enlisted to attack sciolism and dethrone frivolity, and to establish the empire of sound literature and genuine science. But neither of these allusions are satisfactory. We will try one more, and then proceed in sober narrative to give the reasons why we have undertaken, and to describe how we intend to prosecute this enterprize. At the feast which is preparing, the committee of arrangements, like experienced caterers, have reserved the choicest viands for an after period, and set forth at the beginning a course without much seasoning or any garnish.

Conscious in ourselves of too great

attachment to desultory studies, we think we may, without the imputation of unpardonable censoriousness, lament the general propensity and devotedness to superficial and miscellaneous reading. Books, of a nature to meet and encourage this predominant taste, have greatly multiplied of late years. Compendis now abound in every science, many of them professing to include in a *portable*, perhaps a *pocket* volume, all which is necessary to be known on that subject, and comprizing the pith of many cumbrous works. Theology and morals, in their quintessence, may be purchased for a mere trifle ; or a perusal, which will suffice as well, be procured at a still cheaper rate from the circulating library. Law is to be found as much compressed ; and a less sum, than would be required to procure good advice on a single question of litigation, will obtain a ' Vade Mecum' to supersede the necessity of consultation upon all. Physick has been still more abused ; in this way, than the sister professions ; and not only specifics for every disease, but a complete description of them, as well as of the means of prevention and cure, may be had at every shop where other toys and nicknacks are vended. Politicks will not, by most of our enlightened countrymen, be allowed the name of a science. The experience of ages, and the history of governments, as well as all sound reasoning upon them, are rejected, and the crudest theories, the most visionary romances, are eagerly received, as shewing not only the quickest, but the best way of becoming civilians. This *fashion* not only pervades the whole sphere of active life, but has also gained admirers and proselytes in the retreats of scholastick discipline. The *tedious* course of study and

reflection, which is requisite to mature a proficient in classical and general science, is ridiculed by the gay, and dreaded by the indolent; and the advocate for ancient lore, and for the means by which eminence in learning was formerly acquired, will hazard a place among the sticklers for the buckram'd garments of former beaux and belles. Not merely those, whose literary curiosity extends no farther than the classes of novels and the drama, but many even among those, who would fain be thought to have some acquaintance with facts and principles, and who aim at a character for knowledge, captivated by the overwhelming influence of fashionable sentiment, seek in reviews, and abstracts, and 'elements,' and 'new methods,' hints and shreds of truth; instead of recurring to originals, and gradually accumulating a stock of profound information. They become familiar with title pages, indexes, and brief criticisms, but shrink from the toil of thorough or extensive inquiry.

Many circumstances, in the state of our country, tend to countenance and promote this flattering presumption. At the foundation perhaps of this, and many, other delusive opinions, are the chimerical notions generally entertained on civil polity. The idea is very extensively and very diligently promulgated, that little knowledge and less experience is requisite to form legislators and statesmen. The ambition to attain the distinctions of this sort, such as they are, which exist in our government, is predominant in next degree to the general eagerness after wealth. Now as any person, of tolerable capacity and memory, may acquire by rote, from a few days or even hours at-

ention, the whole creed and code of republican truth and duty; and as those who talk vaguely on rights, rather than those who think deeply, or reason justly, on interests and obligations, are most likely to obtain the popular suffrage, it naturally follows, that very crude and shallow politicians take place of mature and correct civilians. Youth cannot but see and know these things; and it cannot occasion so much surprize or regret, that it fosters their inclination for superficial and showy attainments, and discourages deep and patient investigation.

The facility of procuring wealth, the rapidity with which it has of late years grown up among us, and that without very able cultivation, operates as a farther obstacle to scientifick research. The temptation is next to irresistible to quit the long and dull drudgery, which is necessary to attain wisdom; as affluence may be reached in a much shorter and pleasanter way; especially as this seems to give far more distinction, and almost to supersede the use, and outshine the splendour either of talents or learning.

The essay to confute these notions, and correct this too prevalent estimate, may be thought exceedingly romantick, or altogether futile. But we are either so blind or so obstinate, that it is contemplated as laudable, and even some hopes are cherished, that it may be not wholly without effect. For ourselves, we avow utter incredulity respecting the pretensions of modern innovators in science, literature, or jurisprudence. These new lights may appear more dazzling, than the ancient luminaries; but their lustre will, we believe, quickly be exhausted, and they will go out in smoke.

The method, which will be fol-

lowed in the series, which now commences, cannot be as yet exactly and definitively marked. The judgment and taste of others must be consulted, respecting the detail; but, in general, it may be expected, that we shall follow that division of knowledge, which the illustrious Bacon marked out, and which some of the most solid and elegant scholars have adopted and advocated, in reference to Memory, Reason, and Imagination. The objects and studies, which these powers of our minds respectively pursue, and which reciprocally are calculated to delight and improve these faculties, will be defined; their mutual dependence will be traced; their

harmonious influence described; and the names, which time has enrolled on the scroll of fame, receive the eulogy they merit. The true and the useful is our aim; to revive and encourage a diligence and a zeal for that which alone deserves the name of science; to persuade and animate ourselves and our friends to fling away the gewgaws, with which to be amused is at least to waste, perhaps to pervert our mental energies; and, in a word, to control the revolutionary phrenzy, which has pervaded the republic of letters, to restore and confirm the rightful dominion of classick learning, sound philosophy, and correct taste.

For the Anthology.

A SKETCH OF THE PRESENT STATE OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES, LITERATURE, THEOLOGY, &c. IN FRANCE.

Paris, March 26, 1807.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

AFTER residing fifteen months in this city I think I may give you at least some sketches drawn upon the spot, and of the faithfulness of which the recollections of many our countrymen will, I know, be a severe test. It is possible, that I may have received many false impressions, and formed many unjust conclusions, with regard to Paris; but, if the general tenour of this letter should be thought erroneous, let it be attributed to my limited acquaintance with the French language and French society.

When I find upon inquiry, that there are now more than sixty Americans in Paris, and that new visitors are daily arriving at the ports, who rush instantly to this centre, and are here lost for a half year or more in its indescribable

attractions, I am tempted seriously to weigh the advantages, which it presents, and to search into the strange charm, which it exercises.

I can hardly imagine a situation, which holds out fewer invitations to a mere man of business. However, as every merchant among you probably knows more about this, than I do, I shall say no more, except that I believe you will acknowledge, that this is the place to spend and not to get money.

In my dear native country, next to getting money, the most important business is to get news; and our politicians no doubt conclude, that Paris is the place, where the statesman, with spectacles on nose, may take a fine *coup d'oeil* of the state of the world. But the fact is, I imagine, directly the reverse. As this spot is the fulcrum, upon which the destinies of Europe appear at present to be balancing, it

would seem, that less motion is perceptible here, than elsewhere. My countrymen, who are accustomed to have the news every morning with their bread and butter, can hardly conceive of the difficulty of obtaining correct intelligence in Paris; where every press is under the most rigid control of a government, which knows how to turn publick opinion. Unless you have access to the cabinet of the Thuilleries, you may speculate; but be careful how you predict, lest to-morrow should put you to the blush. The grounds of political opinions here, even in what are called well informed circles, are treacherous in the extreme. In the French papers you rarely get at facts, till it is too late to reason from them. Thousands of Frenchmen do not even to this day know a syllable of the battle of Trafalgar. The Parisians are made the sport of all the blasts of rumour, which issue from the bags of the political Æolus. *Una Euræque Notusque, &c.*

I have often tried to imagine, what a young man would do in Paris, who was disposed to study theology. It is not even numbered among the branches of knowledge. In some of their literary journals no place is assigned to works of this class, even if any should be published. Religion in France is at present one of the dead branches of the tree of government, which they do not choose to cut away, because it serves some convenient purposes. The concerns of the church are managed by the *ministre des cultes*, as were the games and shows of ancient Rome by an officer of publick amusements. A man, disposed to study theology here, as a science, would, I think, be much at a loss for companions and instructors. It is true, there are,

in every archbishoprick, seminaries for the education of priests; but it is found very difficult to fill the vacant cures. The protestants have a good Lutheran academy at Strasbourg, and one for the reformed at Geneva. But theological inquiry enters not into the thoughts of the learned. Biblical criticism is unheard of in publick, because it is unknown among the clergy. Of the ancient learned establishments of the Gallican church nothing remains, and of the religion of Rome little else is found, but the pomp of a ceremonial, which the government occasionally calls to its own aid; and the influence of minor priests, which is still found of use among the weakest of the common people.

It is to be regretted, that sacred learning is so much neglected here; for the national library contains inestimable treasures in manuscripts and printed works of theology. But they are now interesting only to the literati of other countries, who sometimes take a journey to consult them, and return home with their spoils. The theological treasures are suffered by the curators to sleep undisturbed, like the rubbish and antiquated furniture, which are usually left to moulder in the garret of an old house. Cuvier, one of the first minds in France, (but a Swiss by birth, and a German by education) lately undertook to pronounce a eulogy upon Dr. Priestley. He estimated well his scientifick merits; and after sufficient encomiums upon his philosophical, undertook to say something of his theological character, first making a thousand excuses to the Institute for bringing such a subject before such a learned body. Indeed, he confessed, that as to Priestley's works in divinity, he had attempted to

read them, but could make nothing of them. Delambre, the other secretary to the first class of the Institute, finished a eulogy, which I heard, upon Brisson, by saying, much to his honour, that he died, like a philosopher, 'without hope and without fear.' Ex uno disce omnes.

In the National Library, not long since, I was employing myself in examining the famous Clermont manuscript of the Epistles of St. Paul. I pointed out to the Professor, who was also the keeper of the manuscripts, who attended us, the well-known various reading, which it has preserved, in 1 Tim. iii. 16., and which is rendered very remarkable by a curious attempt at alteration. The thing appeared to be quite new to him, though it has been known to every critic in Europe for a century.

It cannot be supposed, that, in a country where the character of a theologian is thought hardly worthy of being appreciated, rational piety should be held in much estimation. From what I have been able to ascertain, the relics of devotional and zealous christianity are chiefly to be seen among the few remaining Jansenists of the church of Rome. But even among these, what is really valuable is so mingled with extravagant superstitions, that a man of a truly serious cast of mind will not fail to be disgusted. They still pretend to exhibit in various places in Paris, as before the revolution, miracles, which would shock the credibility of the greatest fanatics among us; and the *œuvre*, as it is called, is as common, though not perhaps as extravagant, among some of the lower classes of the catholics, as it is, under the same name, in the camp-meetings in the United States.

As to the state of the protestants, I have obtained much information; but I have no room, except to give my testimony to the excellent characters of the protestant ministers of the Reformed Church in Paris.

But though theology has lost in France so much of perhaps undeserved favour, yet other parts of literature are cultivated as before. Perhaps the national elegance of French literature is not lost. There are institutions enough in Paris, where are given lectures upon the French language and belles-lettres; and those of other nations are not neglected, except the German, of which the French are utterly ignorant. The Athénæum, (formerly Lycæum,) at which was delivered the *Cours de la Littérature* of La Harpe, still exists. Its professorships are filled, its lectures, its reading-room, and all its advantages, are to be enjoyed at the trifling sum of four or five pounds a year. If literature were to be acquired only by hearing popular discourses, every man and woman in Paris might be made a *litterateur* at a very little expense. But a thorough knowledge of the belles-lettres must be founded upon an intimate acquaintance with the ancient classicks; and that, I fear, is not to be acquired from the present establishments for education. As the flower of the youth is continually swallowed up by the Charybdis of a large army, hardly any young man is educated to be a *litterateur* by profession.

The exact sciences, especially those which have any useful relation to the military life, are almost the only branches of knowledge, which are taught systematically and profoundly. Look over the list of books, which have appeared in France for the last ten years;

and you will find nothing but mathematics, natural history, and philosophy, and works of splendid execution in the fine arts. Criticisms and ancient literature, such as it once existed in Holland; such as it once was found here in Casaubon, and lately in Bartholinus, Vilobion, and the academicians; and such as it is now found in the universities of Germany, has almost disappeared in France. The multitude of translations, *cours de Littérature*, and petty subsidia for petty scholars, which appear every day, sufficiently proclaim the absence of the higher orders of classical acquirements. I cannot give you, in a letter, many instances in proof of these opinions, though I have collected several. I have known a respectable master of ancient languages, in one of the first schools of France, ignorant of the existence of Stephens's Thesaurus, and a famous translator of Plato, who thought Justin Martyr the earliest of the fathers. There is a Hebrew grammar, without points, lately published here by a professor in the college of France. It consists of twelve sheets, which give a kind of conspectus of the language. It is a work, which any man might get up after three months application to the language. The only wonder is, that it has appeared at all. Indeed the professor was obliged to persuade a few of his friends to attend his first lectures, in order to get an audience.

Metaphysics in France are rendered almost unintelligible to the pupils of Locke, Reid, and Stewart, by a new kind of nomenclature, derived from the philosophers, which serves only to conceal the emptiness of some speculations, and to obscure the merit of others. It would be in vain to search in Paris for a course of moral and

intellectual philosophy. The Parisians prefer feeling the outside of a skull with Dr. Gall, to analyzing the wonderful faculties, which exist within that little circumference.*

There is one subsidiary branch of knowledge, which is carried I believe to greater perfection in Paris, than in any part of Europe, except Germany, and this is bibliography. I was by no means aware of this fact, till I had been long in Paris. The school of DeBure has produced a great many scholars, who know the value of all the rarest and most curious morceaux of ancient and modern literature. The bibliographical works, which have appeared during and since the revolution, have been well studied by the six hundred booksellers of Paris. I have been astonished to find, how well the women, who sell books in the most obscure *boutiques*, understand the value of the different articles. The book auctions are filled with female *bibliographistes*.

I am however much afraid, that the progress of bibliography is a strong indication of the decay of learning. When titles, editions, and prices are studied, the contents of the volume are apt to remain, to be studied at a more convenient opportunity. Perhaps however bibliography is nothing more, than a necessary consequence of the prodigious multiplication of books, which the art of printing has introduced.

But if I go on any longer in this strain of cavil, you will give me no farther credit. Is there no one

* Lest I should seem to undervalue too much the French literature, in distinction from science, I will mention, that two tragedies have lately appeared, worthy of a better age...the *Mort De Henri 4.* by Legouvé, and *Amasis, or Joseph in Egypt.*

then of the innumerable divisions of the field of knowledge, for the cultivation of which Paris presents peculiar advantages? Yes, my friend, many, many, many. The exact sciences may be pursued here to any extent. Every ramification of natural philosophy, the progress of which depends on accurate and extensive observation, possesses here, and perhaps here only, every imaginable advantage. Whose fault must it be, if a young man learns nothing in a city, where he may hear the lectures of such men as Vauguelin, Cuvier, Häuy; listen to Berthollet, Fourcroy, Lapeyre, Rumford; a city, where Laplace, Lagrange, and Carnot pursue their sublime speculations; and where every cabinet, garden, library, and museum, are thrown open to the student? Whose fault must it be, if nothing is learnt in a city, where every hour of the day may be given to some scientific inquiry; where lectures may be attended, experiments observed, libraries consulted, and cabinets examined? The *Jardin des Plantes*, or rather the museum of natural history, is unquestionably the most wonderful establishment of the kind in Europe. It is impossible to walk through its grounds, or examine its cabinets, without recalling with reverence the names of Buffon and Daubenton. The establishment consists of a botanical garden, a collection of natural history, a theatre for the various courses, a library, and a menagerie of every species of living animals. Into this favoured spot nature seems to have emptied all her varieties, her beauties, her wonders. You have before you the vegetable kingdom from the magnificent cedar, which once stretched its dark branches over the summits of Libanus, down to the tender sensi-

tive, which shrinks from the touch, and the hardy lichen, which vegetates unperceived amid the frosts of Lapland. If you enter the cabinet of preserved animals, you must raise your eyes to see the lofty head of the camelopard, and take your glass to examine the plumage of the minutest humming-bird, ten thousand of which would hardly make up a dish for Vitellius. The mineral kingdom is most elegantly disposed, and intelligibly arranged after the system of Häuy, from the diamond, which glitters in the crowns of princes, to the dross, which falls from the clouds in the shape of stones. Go into the menagerie, and you may feed the docile elephant, or incense the terrible tyger; see the chamois spring into his aerial house, or contemplate the patient dromedary working the hydraulick machine, which distributes water to this world in miniature.

Besides the advantages of the *Jardin des Plantes*, the student may attend the weekly sittings of the mathematical and physical class of the institute. At the *Athenæum* and at the college of France are given lectures by some of the most eminent professors, and the men of science, though not a little vain and perhaps hardly as generous as the interests of knowledge deserve, are yet sufficiently accessible. The jealousies however, which exist among them, are sometimes extremely unphilosophical. Already it is said that literary honours are not distributed with sufficient impartiality; the favour of the institute is obtained by canvassing and intrigue, and a nice observer will see that merit begins to struggle against power.

But for the man, who, to a taste for the fine arts, joins a certain degree of sensuality in his pleas-

ures, Paris is undoubtedly the Elysium, the metropolis of the gods. It would be superfluous to describe what every foreigner soon learns of the dissoluteness of European cities. But perhaps in no part of the world are all the various contrivances of sensuality so concentrated as in Paris; and certainly in no city of Europe are there so many persons assembled, whose only pursuit is pleasure, and whose only business is to be idle.

The greatest cynick however must acknowledge, that all the innocent luxuries of the *pleasures of the imagination* may be enjoyed here in as great purity as variety. I will say nothing of the delights of harmony, the splendour of *spectacles*, the graces of the dance, the magnificence of publick shows, the wonders of architecture, the elegance of furniture, and the taste of every species of decoration. I will mention only the nobler pleasures of the imitative arts. Who can attend a representation at the Theatre Français, and listen to the verses of Corneille, Racine, or Crebillon recited by the inimitable Talma, and not lose at once all his prejudices against the French drama, and, subdued by the enchantment, fancy for the moment that he sees the laurels of our own Shakespeare ready to wither. Forgive me, my friend; the word has escaped me. I will recall it. It is indeed astonishing, that in the midst of Paris there should exist such high decorum, such unexceptionable purity on this stage; and, in Parisians, such an admiration of the purest dramattick writings in the world. The propriety and richness of costume, the pomp of declamation, the grace of motion, and perhaps still more the proud beauty of Georges, the en-

thusiasm of Duchesnois, the incomparable movements of Talma, all conspire to make the Theatre Français the most pure and satisfactory of publick pleasures to a man of taste, of sentiment, and of principle.

Let us now go to the Louvre, and I will try to finish. The untutored stranger, whose expectations were alive and burning to visit the *Musée Napoleon*, will be lost upon his first entrance, not so much in admiration (for he is prepared to admire) as in the multitude of objects. He will walk through the halls confusedly, looking at every thing, admiring every thing, observing nothing. I venture to say, that he will have no distinct conceptions of the characters, the attitudes, or the places of the statues, which are there distributed, so that upon a second visit he will find that he remembers little of what he saw there before. After several returns he will begin to confine his attention to a few *chefs d'œuvre*. A glimpse of their distinguishing excellencies will shoot through his mind. He will enter into the conception of the artists. He will see in the Apollo something of divinity; in the Venus de Medicis he saw not the beauty which he expected, and he suffers his eyes to rest rather on the Venus of the Capitol; but after returning again and again to the former, he will be ashamed of his sensual partiality, and give himself up to admiration of that supernatural delicacy, which envelopes *this* goddess of the loves. Perhaps he will try in vain to contemplate the torso of Hercules, with the eyes of Michael Angelo, but he will be compensated by discovering the charming proportions of the *Mercur*, which were the admiration of Poussin. In short, if

he will return frequently to the study of this unrivalled collection, though he may be compelled to leave it too soon with inexpressible regret, yet if he be a man, capable of enlightened admiration, he will say, in casting his last look on the wonders of the chisel, ' Adieu ;

I depart without a murmur. I have attained a faint conception of the *béau idéal*. I am rewarded.'

I could fill many sheets in writing about Paris, but my letter is demanded, and I must finish.

Farewell.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 21.

Vixere fortes ante Agamemnona
Multi ; sed omnes ilacrimabiles
Urgentur ignotique longa
Nocte, carent quia vate sacro.

HOR.

Before great Agamemnon reign'd,
Reign'd kings, as great as he, and brave,
Whose huge ambition's now contain'd
In the small compass of a grave ;
In endless night they sleep, unwept, unknown,
No bard had they, to make all time their own.

FRANCIS.

THE encouragement of learning and the patronage of genius are subjects, of which, though we hear much in our country, we have not yet a perfect understanding. From the records of our state legislature we may ascertain, how often they have voted, and how little they have done for our university ; how liberal they have been in acts of incorporation to inferior schools, and how sparing of grants to maintain them. They would have never dared to pay from the treasury a sum sufficient to erect a college or endow a professorship ; but they have most liberally empowered trustees at different times to pursue a system of gaming, that is forbidden by law to a single subject, and have assessed taxes in the shape of lotteries, whose effect has been little more than to compensate the labours of the managers, and corrupt the morals of the publick. Some of the most important studies are therefore faintly pursued, because

the oldest and most respectable literary institution in America wants competent funds to support instructors, and a dancing-master is better paid than a tutor.

If however the government has been niggardly, we may well boast, that the munificence of individuals has been applied to increase the utility of our establishments and to assist the talents of the studious. The liberality of our merchants is as well known at home, as their enterprise abroad.

Of the immense majority of mankind, if a few only are endowed by nature with such talents, as may be cultivated to eminence, they will be chiefly found in that rank of society, whose exertions must be wholly devoted to the procuring of the means of subsistence. How many of our distinguished citizens without patronage would have been forever confined to the humble pursuits of their fathers ! Of their youthful contemporaries how many ardent

minds have languished in obscurity, because

Chill penury repress'd their noble rage,
And froze the genial current of their
souls !

But the proud independence of genius must be treated with more delicacy, than the rich are accustomed to exhibit to their neighbours of inferiour fortunes. Gratitude ceases, when restraint begins. Pecuniary assistance should be conferred as a reward ; if offered, as charity, it is spurned with contempt. The claims of a great mind are not to be nicely calculated by a broker nor liquidated with the flattery of a patron. Chesterfield, hoping to satisfy Johnson for many years of labour, and to obtain the invaluable honour of a dedication with a few honied words, betrayed even more want of judgment, than meanness of soul. As well might he have pampered the lion with the tit-bits of a spaniel. Sampson was not to be confined by such cords, nor his head to be shorn at such solicitation. The peer has not gained the cognomen of *Mecænas* so cheaply, as he expected ; but he is 'a negative example to posterity,' and may always be remembered, as giving a generick name to one of the evils of the scholar's life,

Toil, envy, want, *the patron*, and *the gaol*.

The exploits of the Athenians were not, says Sallust, more brilliant, than other people have displayed ; but the genius of their writers has made the world resound with their fame. Their neighbours and their rivals were not inactive, but of their activity no honourable memorial has come down to our days, *carent quia vate sacro*. Alexander weeps with envy at the tomb of Achilles, because the hero's spear rages more in the

verse of Homer, than it ever did in the grasp of its master.

To learn how intimate is the connexion between the state of knowledge in any country and its prosperity, we need only compare the present condition of some parts of Europe with that of the feudal ages of darkness. The fetters of papal supremacy restrained the exertions of science, and the barbarity of monarchs and of subjects, varying less in reality, than in mode, gave no encouragement to art. Of the history of such times the mind rests on but few portions with delight. It resembles an extensive coast, enveloped in mist, where, though a few eminences are enlightened, the greater part appears dark, barren, and wearisome. Great minds are hardly distinguished in the ignoble herd of their countrymen. Like the companions of Æneas after the tempest, *apparent rari nantes in gurgite vasto*.

They rarely from the dark abyss emerge.

Of the nations of modern Europe, Italy, which was first in the race of civilization has long given up the hope of victory. Art and science were there resuscitated, but have long since been overpowered by lethargy. Statuary has indeed asserted her ancient honours ; but how long can she contend with domestic poverty and foreign domination ? The masterpieces of antiquity, and the rival vouchers of modern genius are transported beyond the Alps. The immortal city has no longer the club of Hercules to defend her ; her Apollo is torn away to grace the palace of the Thuilleries ; the thunder-bolt of Jupiter is wielded in a foreign country. The old ceremony of *evocation* has been performed by the French com-

manders ; the gods of Rome have deserted to the enemy.

In Switzerland moral causes cannot counteract the designs of nature, who said at the creation, here shall the inhabitants labour for a scanty subsistence and enjoy liberty, though debased by ignorance. Their mountains and valleys, deformed with rocks or buried in snow, seems destined to be the cradle of genius ; but the poverty of the country will not support his manhood. No other nymph, than she, whom Gessner courted, who seems to delight in mountain air, can live in so bleak an abode.

Spain, from her happy climate, and luxuriant soil, ought to be the elysium of Europe, and the genius of her natives might vie with that of Greece. But ecclesiastical bigotry there sways a sceptre more powerful, than the wand of Mercury, which drove only the shades of departed mortals, while the inquisition constrains the spirits of the living.

The causes of the decline of Holland may be estimated variously by different politicians ; but all will allow, that one, not the least efficient, was the neglect of learning by her citizens, and the universal pursuit of wealth. The

mighty mass of matter, in the composition of a Dutchman, was moved only by the competition for gain. *Agitante calescimus Deo.*

Between France and England, the contention for excellence in arts has been as animated, as for superiority in power. Learning has, in each country, been the subject of their highest pride. In the land of our forefathers, the Cum and the Isis are more revered than all the rivers of the East, 'whose foam is amber, and their gravel gold.' In all the liberal arts, except poetry, France has, perhaps, the advantage ; but the free spirit of Englishmen vindicates their superiority in abstract science.

If we are not the spurious offspring of our fathers, if we have not degenerated by transplantation, we ought, in no distant time, to rival England in learning, as in commerce. As we are in our infancy, perhaps attention is due rather to institutions, than to individuals ; and literary societies and projects deserve encouragement, before solitary genius can be patronised. To such plans every man, however inferior in station or wealth, may be invited to contribute, though he should modestly shrink from the honours of Mæcenas, or Lorenzo.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE TO HIS FRIENDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

LETTER FIFTH.

Rome, Feb. 5, 1805.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

AS I promised in my last letter, I will proceed to give you some desultory sketches of Italian manners, usages, and character. If

some of them should be thought trivial in themselves, my apology must be, that the character of nations, as well as individuals, is made up of an infinite number of minute circumstances, each one perhaps,

considered separately, unimportant ; but the whole forming an assemblage, which constitutes that marked diversity, which we observe in different countries.

In the great outlines, men in all civilized nations essentially agree. We find the same passions, weaknesses, talents, virtues, and vices, though shaded with almost every imaginable diversity by usage, habit, and example, and affected by climate, religion, government, and state of morals.

The inhabitants of Rome are distinguishable from every other European nation, by the regularity and beauty of their features ; by the colour of their complexions, which is that of a lively brunette, sometimes accompanied with a sickly paleness ; and by a very striking gravity, and thoughtfulness of expression. I do not think I should be extravagant in saying, that the countenances of the common people in this city bespeak more intelligence, sensibility, and reflection, than those of any other city, which I have yet visited.

How far this melancholy gravity may be fairly attributed to the influence of religion, which obliges them to be three quarters of the year employed in ecclesiastical exercises, to the arbitrary nature of the government, to the misery of the greater part of the common people, or to the comparison of their present degraded state with their former unexampled grandeur, (an idea, which the *meanest Roman* never forgets,) I leave for philosophers to determine. The *fact* only I think it proper to notice.

The dress of the Italians in general resembles that of the French ; there is one part of it only, which is peculiar to themselves, and which I believe has been handed down to them from their ancestors

the ancient Romans. Every man, even the most poor, is enveloped in cold weather in a most ample cloak, one end of which is thrown over the shoulder, and reaches nearly to the feet. I cannot perceive any difference between this garment, and the toga of the ancient Romans, as it is represented upon the antique basso relievos and statues.

Much has been said by writers and connoisseurs, who have the 'gusto Italiano,' about the delicacy of the Italian language, its softness in pronunciation, its adaptitude to oratory and musick. I was prepared to find a nation, whose colloquial eloquence would be all harmony. But believe me, that seven-eighths of all these enthusiastick praises are the result of fashion or vanity. We are very fond of commending those accomplishments which we possess, but which others do not generally enjoy. I certainly entered Italy with the usual prejudices in favour of the language of that nation, increased by a few months attention to, and admiration of it. But I can assure you, that I was extremely disgusted with the Italian pronunciation of their language ; and that during six months residence, I heard but one person speak it in a manner not offensive to the ear.

It may be said, perhaps, that all languages sound at first uncouthly to those, who have not been accustomed to them ; but it was by a comparison of the Italian with other languages, with which I was a little familiar, that the above opinion was formed. The fact is, that the broad sound of the Italian vowels, and the constant recurrence of vowels in their words, produces a very loud, and inharmonious mode of speaking, extremely painful to a stranger accustomed to a

closer, and more confined pronunciation. Every Italian, conversing on the most ordinary and indifferent subjects, appears to be in a state of violent emotion.

The practice of employing eunuchs in their operas, and other musical performances, though opposed to every principle of decency and humanity, and expressly forbidden by the laws of the church, prevails as much as ever in every part of Italy. Even the leaders of the band of sacred musick at St. Peter's, and all the other churches of Rome, are in this degraded and mutilated situation. If we could forget the inhumanity, the impiety, and indelicacy, of this practice, we should indeed be charmed by the modulation and extent of the vocal powers of this unhappy race of mortals.

The artificers, and all the common people at Rome, have a strong propensity to overreach, and especially to impose upon strangers. Instead of asking, as the workmen of other countries frequently do, fifteen or twenty per cent. more than the value of an article, which they expose for sale, the Romans not unfrequently demand five or six times the value. On my arrival in this city, a friend advised me, whenever a louis d'or (or 29s. sterling) was demanded of me for any article, to offer a Paul, (or six pence sterling) and that I must not be surprised if the offer should be accepted. Although this advice was a little hyperbolic, it was not so much out of the way as you would imagine; and in objects of the fine arts, more especially, you may be pretty sure of purchasing, if you offer a dollar when four are demanded. I have endeavoured to find the cause of this very extraordinary laxity of principle and practice, and I think

it is to be attributed to the nature of the commodities in which these people usually traffick. The commerce and manufactures of Rome are chiefly confined to copies of paintings, frequently sold as originals, to busts, statues, coins, intaglios, cameos, mosaicks, and other objects of the fine arts, the value of which is, in the nature of the case, uncertain, and the price depends upon the whim or caprice of the purchaser, or the adroitness, and often falsehood, of the seller. For more than a century past, this city has been the fashionable resort of all the young men of fortune of every other nation in Europe. Frequently possessing very little understanding, and still less learning, they invariably carry with them the opinion, that it is very pretty, and indeed necessary, to be connoisseurs; and to prove it to their less happy countrymen upon their return, by their collections of antiques and objects of the fine arts, brought directly from the source of all taste, *Rome*. Such young men, it may be readily conceived, are the proper subjects for the adroit and ingenious Romans. So long ago as the time of the celebrated Abbe Barthelemy, author of the travels of Anacharsis, the frauds of these fabricators of *original* antiques, were so well disguised, as to impose frequently on that very learned antiquarian, and his literary friends.

It may easily be imagined, as every nation in Europe, especially the British, has been drawing upon this exhaustless fund of manufactured antiquities, that the art of imitation has not grown worse, although the real curiosities must have essentially diminished.

From my own observation, I can assure you, that there are more *original* paintings of each of the

celebrated Italian artists, pretended to be scattered in the different cabinets of Europe, than any *ten* of the most industrious of them could have executed.

Having a pretty good memory, I frequently remarked, that I had seen three or four copies of the same painting in different cabinets, all the proprietors of which claim the merit of having the original.

The same remark may be applied to every other branch of the fine arts and antiques, especially to coins, medals, and intaglios.

If one can trust either to appearances, or to the accounts which one receives in travelling, the Romans, in general, are not rich; and there are few who can, from the nature of their city and country, have the means of acquiring great wealth. The only persons who appear to possess affluence, except the high ecclesiastical officers, are the nobility. A *very small* portion of these lay claim to a noble descent of very high antiquity, and pretend to trace their origin to the Scipios and Cæsars. These, however, are neither among the wealthiest, nor the most distinguished of the nobles. Much the greater part, who now figure among the grandees at Rome, are the descendants of the nephews, or natural children of the Popes. The great families of the Borghese, Farnese, Barbecini, and Doria, owe a great part, and many of them the whole of their splendour, to the circumstance of an ancestor's having been raised to the pontifical chair. The late revolution has, at Rome as well as in France, placed a coronet or a mitre upon the heads of many, who thought themselves born to humbler fortunes. The most distinguished of this class is the marquis Torlonia, now the greatest banker in Italy. This man, at the com-

mencement of the revolution, which overthrew the Papal throne, was in the humble office of a valet: but taking an active part in favour of the French, he soon attracted their notice, became a favourite of their generals, the contractor for their armies, and thus acquired an immense fortune. With this property he has already invested himself with a marquisate, and has purchased the reversion of a dukedom. It may be well to remark here, that the titles in almost every part of Italy are not *personal*, but are attached to the estate; so that any man may become a duke or even a prince, who has the means and disposition to purchase an estate for the purpose.

The Italian nobility, in general, are not remarkable for the splendour of their equipages, or the expensiveness of their tables. Their pride and luxury seem to be confined to the magnificence of their palaces; the value, number, and antiquity of their paintings and statues. This taste undoubtedly owes its origin to the fine specimens of architecture and statuary, with which their country had been enriched by the ancient Romans, and a vast many of which have escaped the ravages of time. As the modern Romans found that their country was the resort of literary men of all nations, principally on account of these remains of ancient grandeur, it is extremely natural that, poor as they were, they should place a higher value upon these objects, than upon any other gratifications. If we except the palace built by Louis XIV. at Versailles, no monarch in Europe is so magnificently lodged, as twenty of these Roman nobles.

The interior of their palaces perfectly responds to the splendour

of the exterior. The cabinets of these nobles frequently contain paintings and statues, which would sell for millions; while the proprietors are the prey of Jews and sharpers, and almost literally want a coat.

I can give you one example of the prodigious value of the collections of some of these poor noblemen. The prince Justiniani had sold, it was said, four pictures out of his collection, to Lucien Bonaparte, for 160,000 dollars. I do not think that he had less than five or six hundred fine pictures left. The Palais Borghese contains statues and paintings, which would sell in England for more than a million sterling. All the gratification, which these noblemen derive from these splendid establishments, is, the praise and attention bestowed upon them by foreigners, who still crowd to Rome from every part of the civilized world. It is said, that the present race of Roman nobility is very much degraded in character; that they are ignorant, and wholly destitute of those qualities, which can alone render an aristocracy respectable.

The ecclesiastical police of Rome prohibits all public spectacles and amusements, except of a religious nature, or at the period of the Carnival. During this short interval of festivity, the theatre is opened, and the Romans, by the extravagance and folly of their amusements, endeavour to indemnify themselves for the restrictions, under which they are placed, during the rest of the year.

The Roman stage appears to me in a very humble state of advance-

ment. Tedious operas, in which every principle of common sense and nature is violated, or gross buffoonry, suited only to the lowest tastes, are the things which a Roman audience can alone relish. Operas in all languages, and in every country, are sufficiently stupid; but in France, you are in some degree recompensed for the outrage done to probability and good sense, by the splendour of the scenery, and the taste and beauty of the ballet. At Rome you are denied even these sources of relief. Long recitatives, without spirit or variety, and still longer songs and sonnettas exhaust the patience of the most meek, and you are amused with the same dirty scenery, which never changes, and with Harlequins, Scaramouches, and jumping jacks, instead of dancers. Much has been said, too, of the other amusements of the Carnival; but they are still more stupid and ridiculous, than their theatrical performances. They consist solely in odd and whimsical masquerade dresses, in which almost all the inhabitants attire themselves, and parade the streets, without the least exertion of wit, or any attempt to support the characters which they fantastically assume. On the whole, Rome, to a stranger, would be a most insipid and disagreeable city, if he was not compensated by the immense number and value of the objects of the fine arts, with which it is enriched, and by the magnificence of the remnants of antiquity, of which the folly and cupidity of the modern inhabitants cannot deprive him.

Yours, &c.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 27.

Spargite humum foliis, inducite fontibus umbras. VIRG. Ecl. V.

DUPORT.

DUPORT is the best French dancer that ever flourished. Speak but the name of Duport in Paris, and you are at once beloved. Old Vestres ranked himself with the three greatest living characters of the world; but Duport is ranked with the deities of old. When the curtain of the grand opera-house of Paris rises, silence is most boisterously proclaimed, in order that the audience may hear, as well as see, the motions of this young Mercury. He plays Zephyr, in *Le Retour de Zephyr*. The musick, with a sweet and plaintive melody, woos Zephyr from the cliffs. He comes, but in the most 'questionable shape.' He bounds from the rocks, as if he were a god, just lighting on the earth; he rises, and floats along, with all the airy lightness of a white cloud, in a summer's sky. Indeed so flexible is he, that he seems, in some of his motions, to melt into very air; he becomes a zephyr itself, and you feel him on your cheek. The Paris ladies draw in their breath, as if they were inhaling him; and the monsieurs take him up their noses, mingled in a pinch of rappee. The curtain drops, and Duport is demanded, in order that they may experience, by some one of their common, household, every-day senses, whether he is something, or nothing.

DEDICATIONS.

Dedications seem now almost out of use. This may be owing to the universal stupidity of the poor literary wights of the present

day. The press has disembugued too much stuff, for a few years, to be acceptable in offering to any one, 'gentlemanly learned.' The marrow of modern dedications lies altogether in the tail of them. At the conclusion, the manner of the author is very much like that of a French dancing-master, taking leave of a minuet. *Ex.gr.* 'I now take my leave, for the present, of your lordship, and remain, with the most profound reverence, and heart-felt gratitude for innumerable favours, your lordship's most obedient and very humble servant.' We know not how Johnson would have built this portico to the massy fabrick of his dictionary; its columns would, at least, have displayed stateliness and magnificence; if not beauty and grace. I will venture, however, to affirm, that there is no dedication in the language, so masterly, and so courteous, so various, so splendid, and so crowded with fine writing, as that of Prior to the earl of Dorset. Prior addresses him, amongst other things, as being the son and successor of his great patron, the earl of Dorset. I subjoin a few of the passages:

I assure myself, the most agreeable compliment I can bring your lordship, is to pay a grateful respect to your father's memory. And my own obligations to him were such; that the world must pardon me for endeavouring at his character; however I may miscarry in the attempt.

A thousand ornaments met in the composition of this great man; and contributed to make him universally beloved and esteemed.

Such were the natural faculties and strength of his mind; that he had occasion to borrow very little from education; and he owed those advantages to his own good parts, which others acquire by study and imitation. His wit was abundant, noble, bold. Wit in most writers is like a fountain in a garden, supplied by several streams brought through artful pipes, and playing sometimes agreeably. But the earl of Dorset's was a source rising from the top of a mountain, which

found its own way, and, with inexhaustible supplies, delighted and enriched the country through which it passed. This extraordinary genius was accompanied with so true a judgment in all parts of fine learning, that whatever subject was before him, he discoursed as properly of it, as if the peculiar bent of his study had been applied that way; and he perfected his judgment by reading and digesting the best authors, though he quoted them very seldom,

“Contemnebat potius literas, quam nesciebat :” and rather seemed to draw his knowledge from his own stores, than to owe it to any foreign assistance.

The brightness of his parts, the solidity of his judgment, and the candour and generosity of his temper distinguished him in an age of great-polliteness, and at a court abounding with men of the finest sense and learning.

As the judgment which he made of other's writings, could not be refuted; the manner in which he wrote will hardly ever be equalled. Every one of his pieces is an ingot of gold, intrinsically and solidly valuable; such as, wrought or beaten thinner, would shine through a whole book of any other author. His thought was always new; and the expression of it so particularly happy, that every body knew immediately, it could only be my Lord Dorset's; and yet it was so easy too, that every body was ready to imagine himself capable of writing it. There is a lustre in his verses, like that of the sun in Claude Lorraine's landscapes; it looks natural, and is inimitable. His love-verses have a mixture of delicacy and strength; they convey the wit of Petronius, in the softness of Tibullus. His satire indeed, is so severely pointed, that in it he appears, what his great friend, the Earl of Rochester, (that other prodigy of the age) says he was :

“The best good man, with the worst-natur'd Muse.”

Yet so far was this great author from valuing himself upon his works, that he cared not what became of them, though every body else did. There are many things of his not extant in writing, which however are always repeated; like the verses and sayings of the ancient Druids, they retain an universal veneration; though they are preserved only by memory.

MOTION AND REST.

I crave pardon of many grave and potent critics, in daring to name a beauty from Southey, though never so beautiful; as much as I beseech it from the mild, gentle, and benign spirit of Dr. Johnson, in taking one from Byer. It is almost impossible to have two minuter descriptions, and two so correspondently different :

..... They were gallant barks,
As ever through the raging billows rode,
And many a tempest buffetting they bore;
Their sails all swelling to the eastern breeze,
Their tightened cordage clattering to the mast.
Steady they rode the main; the gale aloft
Sung in the shrouds, the sparkling waters hissed
Before, and frothed, and whitened far behind;
Day after day with one auspicious wind
Bright to the setting sun, we held our way.

SOUTH. MADOC.

..... With easy course,
The vessels glide, unless their course be stopped
By dead calms, that oft lie on these smooth seas,

While every sephyr sleeps; then the shrouds drop
The downy feather, on the cordage hung,
Moves not. The flat sea shines like yellow gold
Fused in fire. DYER'S FLEECE.

THE NOSE, EYE, AND MOUTH.

These are the three features, which so embellish and enoble the human countenance. The nose marks man from brutes, and is a general index of the characters of men. But the nose is not much, after all. Its use consists mostly in its being the sentry-box, where the sense of smell holds its watch over taste, to give the alarm of the approach of offence. The organ of smell is the medium of but little pleasant sensation to the brain; and there is but little sentiment to be extracted from odour, however fragrant. It is, poor thing, destined to suffer much annoyance, as it cannot close itself against the entrance of that which it abhors.

The eye is the inlet of all that is beautiful in nature. It is the loop-hole of our earthy castle, out of which the soul loves to look on the broad domains, which surround it. In physiognomy, the eye is unquestionably one of the strongest principles. It expresses all the strong and powerful evolutions of the soul; but it is no index to its minuter operations. As a feature, it is filled with honour and love. How sublime is man with an eye of Mars, in the front of Jove; how lovely is woman, with a blue eye, melting under a falling eye-lash. How sorrowful is she, when the lustre of this blue eye is dimmed with tear-drops; and how holy are these tears, when seen through those, which pity has started in our own!

But how shall I speak of the mouth? How trace the eternally variable line of the lip? How shall I follow the thousand evanescent motions, that play about it? How

bewitching is it, at the starting of a smile ; how lovely, as it gathers to close upon it. How pure is it, just opening with sorrow ; how tremulous under the touches of pity ! In joy, how expressive ; in love, how melting. How does it exceed all that nature has done !

How supreme is it over art ! How much more brilliant is it, than coral inlaid with pearls.

—
CRITICKS.

The doctrine of writing is clearly no more, than the doctrine of association. One, therefore, to be a correct judge of what another has written, must have the same train of ideas pass partially thro' his brain ; and his mind must, in some degree, be co-operative with the author's. There are some men, who may judge of all things, by the force of intellect, and the authority of nature ; whose ideas occur to them, like axioms, and whose reasonings are the ratios of truth. But learned men, with weak heads, are like misers, with great wealth, they possess more than they have capacity to enjoy, or ingenuity to exercise ; and they are forever acquiring that, which they never can transmit. Though this gentry of the Hollowskulls have wit so thin, that they will ' endure but one skimming,' yet will they bend their shaggy brows over their shallow skulls, with the hazard of fracture, for the sake of looking fierce, and putting out of countenance a blushing author.— Quoting Greek will never alter what is true, nor blemish what is beautiful ; nor even malignancy, squatted like a toad, disgorging venom, poison the purity of intellect. If the minds of common criticks fail them, let them not blame the force of the author's, but the imbecility of their own. When they praise, let them not praise

from the exultation of comprehension ; when they condemn, let them not be irritated by the spite and restlessness of impotency. Dull criticks resemble those bodies, which absorb light, by their grossness, stifle it, and return only vacant darkness.

—
CITY SHOWER.

There is something consummately sullen in a rainy day, in the city. The streets sound hollow, as now and then a heavy coach drives along ; or as the drenched horse clatters rapidly over the pavements with his drizzling rider. The lady visitant trips homeward, (for it rains too hard to get a coach) her muslins clinging and fadging to her limbs, so that they creek with their tight setting ; and the citizens trudge home to their wives, to pass the afternoon, and have tea and whaffles. The poetical part of the confusion of gutters, mingling into quagmires, and the objects of their sweeping fury and destruction, is very aptly set forth by Swift :

Now in contiguous drops the flood comes down,
Threat'ning with deluge this devoted town.
To shops in crowds the daggled females fly,
Pretend to cheapen goods, but nothing buy.
The templar spruce, while every spout's abroad,
Stays till its fair, yet seems to call a coach.
The tuck'd up seamstress walks with hasty strides,
While streams run down her oiled umbrella's sides.
Here various kinds, by various fortunes led,
Commence acquaintance underneath a shed.
Now from all parts the swelling kennels flow,
And bear their trophies with them as they go ;
Filths of all hues, and odours seem to tell
What street they came from, by their sight & smell,
Drown'd puppies, stinking sprats, all drench'd in
mud,
Dead cats, and turnip-tops, come tumbling down
the flood.

How different is a shower in the country ! How pleasant is it, then, to sit at the window of my country house, and listen to the gentle kisses of rain-drops and leaves ; to hear the drooping bird chirp faintly from the orchard ; and the drip-

ping cattle, gathering close, low at the gate. How soft the air, filled with the freshness of the vallies, and the luxuriance of the plains. But how sweeter is its clearing up, at evening; the rainbow glimmering; the broad sun shedding a faint light over the deepened landscape; the birds shaking their little wings, and opening their merry throats; and man and beast peaceful and contented.

—
MATTER-OF-FACT MEN.

There is no set of animals so tedious, as matter-of-fact men. That is, those, who have bare facts, without the reason of them. An eclipse happened yesterday; it is a fact. But they cannot tell what is an eclipse, nor how it happened. I have been reasoning high logick, and bye logick, and been at the point of the triumph of argument, though perhaps without the conquest of truth; and one of these *caves-droppers* in conversation, who hears all, but speaks not a word, will by and by surprise me with a confounded fact, which, do my best, I cannot get over. *Ex. gr.* I will advance in argument, 'man has an abhorrence of violent pain, and therefore would not bathe in molten lead.' My respondent denies not my proposition. But *Factotum* blows me up at once, in declaring, that he has seen a man in Paris, who, for ten sous, would bathe himself in the very fluid; and this is a fact.

—
WOMEN.

It is in vain for men to put on important airs and wise looks, in claiming absolute superiority over women. The one, who makes the last triumph, is pretty evidently the conqueror. There is a mysterious influence about them, which will get the better of us; a nimble-

ness of thought, which will outstretch our own. Let us be, but a moment, under the spell of a melting face, and where is the rigour of our stoicism? What avails us to dart the fiery glances of indignant eyes against a blue one, glistening in tears? One sigh from the bosom of a beautiful woman will wreck our pride, and one tear-drop overwhelm it. On the other hand, these pretty favourites of nature must not too curiously peep into the dark and winding recesses of science. The delicacy of their minds may be made still sweeter by apportioning their time to the endearing order and peaceful security of domestick life, and to the acquirement of easy literature; sometimes to the airiness of poetry, and sometimes to the gravity of plain reading. Montaigne's words are most preceptive:

La poésie est un amusement propre à leur besoin; c'est un art folâtre, tout en plaisir, comme elles. Elles tirent aussi divers commoditez de l'histoire. En la philosophie, de la part qui sert à la vie, elles prendront les discours qui les dressent, à juger de nos humeurs et conditions, à se defendre de nos trahisons; à régler la temerité de leurs propres desirs; à messager leur liberté; à longer les plaisirs de la vie, et à porter humainement l'inconstance d'un serviteur, la rudesse d'un mary.

—
DANTE ALIGHIERI.

There is much mystery about this dark and solemn Italian bard. It was in his banishment, that he became the most gloomy of recluses, abstracted from objects of this world, and brooding over the memory of his beloved, but dead Beatrice. It was then, amidst the gloomy haunts of exile, and in the deep silence of never-ending solitude, that his dark spirit held strange vision and communion with the horrible shadows of the other world. It was then, that it moved with dreadful pomp through the regions of hell, along ranges of forms, monstrous with every deformity, which heavenly in-

dignation could impose, and writhing with every torture, which wrath could inflict. Amid the hollow groans of anguish and despair, and the sinking sobs of sorrow, that is never to end, and of repentance, unaccepted, did he perform his infernal march. His *Inferno* is the mighty perspective of his tremendous pass.

In his *Purgatorio*, his mind has shed a pale light through the infinite extent of darkness, which had surrounded it. In his *Paradiso*, he has struck into vision realms, brighter and more charming, than even hope could desire. The air of his heaven is the purest expanse, through which his perfect spirits are forever moving, with all the felicity and delight of angelick life.

Dante was born at Florence, A. D. 1265, and sprung from one of its first families. He was early enamoured of Beatrice, the influence of whose charms was the inspiration of his muse. His love, like that of his successor Petrarch, was most strange, mysterious, and spiritual. She died at twenty-six, and the soul of Dante sunk into the most profound gloom. During the convulsions of grief, he commenced the mighty work of the *Divina Commedia*; encouraged by the prayers of his mistress, now in heaven, who had prevailed on the spirit of Virgil to be his guide through the regions he was to pass. The spirit of the great Latin poet was to Dante, what Æneas was to himself. Having been suspected of joining in a conspiracy, at Florence, he was banished, and for many years the melancholy bard wandered about Italy, hunger-bitten, and forsaken. He finally procured protection at Ravenna, where he at length closed his miserable life. Dante was said to have pos-

sessed powerful eloquence, and was sent on fourteen different embassies. His works consist of the *Divina Commedia*, a Latin translation on Eloquence, and many canzonets and sonnets. He has been thus peculiarly sketched by a great Italian writer: 'His demeanour was solemn, and his walk slow; his dress suitable to his rank and age; his visage long, his nose aqueline, his eyes full, his cheek bones large, and upper lip a little projecting over the under one; his complexion was olive, his hair and beard thick and curled; this gave him that singularity of aspect, which made his enemies observe, that he looked like one who had visited the infernal regions.'

Though surrounded by the gloom of the dark ages, the genius of Dante moved through the thickened hemisphere, like the sun in a storm, struggling through darkness, and at times breaking forth with excessive light. Though persecuted, and then forsaken, he was inspired by his muse to achievements, which made his name imperial in fame. His imagination was so filled with sublimity, pathos, and beauty, that it is difficult to detach from the whole, particular examples.

The third canto of the *Inferno* opens with the dreadful inscription on the gates of hell:

Per me si va nella città "dolenta :
Per me si va nell' eterno dolore :
Per me si va tra la perduta gente.
"Giustizia mosse 'l mio alto fattore :
Fecemi la divina potestate,
La somma sapienza, e 'l "primo amore.
Dinanzi a me non fur cose create,
Se "non eterne, ed io "eterno duro :
Lasciate ogni speranza, voi che 'ntrate.
 DELL' INFERNO, Cant. 3.

Through me the newly-damn'd for ever
 fleet,
 In ceaseless shoals, to Pain's eternal
 seat;

Through me they march, and join the
tortur'd crew.
The mighty gulph offended Justice
made ;
Unbounded power the strong founda-
tion laid,
And Love, by Wisdom led, the lim-
its drew.

“ Long ere the infant world arose to
light,
I found a being in the womb of night.
Eldest of all—but things that ever
last !—
And I for ever last !—Ye heirs of Hell,
Here bid at once your lingering hope
firewell,
And mourn the moment of repentance
past !”

BOYD.

The repose of the following
stanza is peculiarly striking :

*Quante il villan, ch' al poggia si riposa,
Nei tempo, che colui, che 'l mondo
schiaera,
La fucchia sua a noi tien "meno ascosa,
Come "a mosca cede alla zanzara,
Vede lucciole giù per la "vallea,
Forse colà, dove vendemmia ed ara.*
DELL' INFERNO, Cant. 26.

As when the swain, reclin'd beneath
the shade,
Beholds the glow-worm train illumè
the glade,
And spangling myriads gleam along
the vale :
While Evening slumbers o'er her
shadowy reign,
And, borne on Summer wing, across
the plain,
In twilight bands, the droning beetles
sail.

BOYD.

Is there in the whole range of
poetry a description of winter, so
masterly as the following ?

*In quella parte del "giovinetto anno,
Che 'l "sole i crin sotto l' "Aquario tem-
pra,
E già le notti al "mezzo di sen' vanno :
Quanto la brina in su la terra "assempra
L' imagine di sua "sorella bianca,
M. "poco ltra alla sua "penna "tempra,
Lo "oi. lanello, "a cui la roba manca,
Si leva, e guarda, e vede la campagna
Biancheggiar tutta, "ond' ei si batte
l' "anca :
Ritorna a casa, e qua e là si lagna,
Come 'i "tapin, che non sa che si faccia :*

*Poi "riede, e la speranza "ringoagna
"Veggendo 'l mondo aver capgiata fucchia.*
DELL' INFERNO, Cant. 24.

When now the infant Year begins her
race,
Then rising SOL the watry sign surveys,
And deep inurn'd, his oozy tresses
laves :
Keen BOREAL blasts congeal the fall-
ing dew,
The hoary prospect glows beneath the
view,
Till Phoebus gild afar the orient
waves.
Half-clad the shudd'ring peasant meets
the dawn,
And views with looks of woe the win-
try lawn ;
Then turns desponding to his hut
forlorn :
Once more the wintry plain his feet
essay,
The frosty mantle sits beneath the ray,
And meets the Sun in mounting vol-
umes borne.

BOYD.

No two poets ever wrote with
such coincidence of thought and
expression, as the Italian poet, and
the great author of Paradise Lost.
Indeed, the same train of images
seems to have passed through the
inspired vision of these two wild
magicians. The darkness of their
souls was 'utter ;' the light of them
as pure and mild, as the first ray,
which reached the bowers of Eden.

VIRGIL'S THUNDER.

Virgil's art of making thunder
seems very like an empirick's
recipe : his Cyclops are like so
many drug-men, most gravely mak-
ing it up. There is so much
quackery about the original pre-
scription, that one is surprized
Dryden did not reduce the ingre-
dients, at least to *scruples*.

*Tres imbris torti radios, tres nubis aqueosæ
Addiderant, rutuli tres ignis et alitis Austri,
Fulgores nunc terrificos, sonitumque metumque
Miscabant operi flammisque sequacibus iras.*

ÆNEID. VIII.

Three rays of writhen rain, of fire three more,
Of winged southern winds and cloudy store
As many parts ; the dreadful mixture frame,
And fears are added, and avenging flame.

DRYDEN.

— — — — —
For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTER.

[The following letter, which was written by the late President of the United States, at an early period of his life, will be read with peculiar pleasure by those, who love to trace the progress of eminent men. Some of the sentiments, which it contains, were prophetic, and are gradually fulfilling. We are happy to preserve the fragments of those heroes, who attained the independence of our country, and to whom we are indebted for the forms of our civil institutions.]

Worcester, Oct. 12, 1755.

DEAR SIR,

ALL that part of creation, which lies within our observation, is liable to change. Even mighty states and kingdoms are not exempted. If we look into history, we shall find some nations rising from contemptible beginnings, and spreading their influence, till the whole globe is subjected to their sway. When they have reached the summit of grandeur, some minute and unsuspected cause commonly effects their ruin, and the empire of the world is transferred to some other place. Immortal Rome was, at first, but an insignificant village, inhabited only by a few abandoned ruffians; but, by degrees, it rose to a stupendous height, and excelled, in arts and arms, all the nations that preceded it. But the demolition of Carthage, (what one should think would have established it in supreme dominion) by removing all danger, suffered it to sink into debauchery, and made it, at length, an easy prey to barbarians. England, immediately upon this, began to increase (the particular and minute causes of which, I am not historian enough to trace) in power and magnificence, and is now the greatest nation upon the globe.

Soon after the reformation, a few people came over into this new world, for conscience sake. Perhaps this apparently trivial incident may transfer the great seat of empire into America. It looks likely to me; for, if we can remove the turbulent Gallicks, our people, according to the exactest computations, will, in another century, become more numerous than England itself. Should this be the case, since we have, I may say, all the naval stores of the nation in our hands, it will be easy to obtain the mastery of the seas; and then the united force of all Europe, will not be able to subdue us. The only way to keep us from setting up for ourselves, is to disunite us. Divide et impera—Keep us in distinct colonies, and then some great men in each colony, desiring the monarchy of the whole, they will destroy each other's influence, and keep the country in equilibrio.

Be not surprised that I am turned politician. This whole town is immersed in politicks. The interests of nations, and all the dira of war, make the subject of every conversation. I sit and hear, and after having been led through a maze of sagé observations, I sometimes retire, and, by laying things together, form some reflections

pleasing to myself. The produce of one of these reveries you have read above. Different employments, and different objects, may have drawn your thoughts other ways. I shall think myself happy, if, in your turn, you communicate your lucubrations to me. I wrote you sometime since, and have waited with impatience for an answer, but have been disappointed. I hope that the lady, at Barnstable, has not made you forget your friends. Friendship, I take it, is one of the distinguishing glories of man; and the creature, that is insensible of its charms, though he may wear the shape of man, is unworthy of

the character. In this perhaps we bear a nearer resemblance to unembodied intelligences, than in any thing else. From this I expect to receive the chief happiness of my future life; and am sorry that fortune has thrown me at such a distance from those of my friends, who have the highest place in my affections. But thus it is, and I must submit—But I hope, ere long, to return, and live in that happy familiarity, that has, from earliest infancy, subsisted between yourself and affectionate friend,

JOHN ADAMS.

Addressed to Mr. NATHAN }
WEBB, at Braintree. }

SELECTED POETRY.

[We are confident, that our readers will be grateful to us for the re-publication of the following verses. They are extracted from a pamphlet, which has gone through several editions in England, and are supposed to have been written by the celebrated GEORGE CANNING.]

ELIJAH'S MANTLE.

BEING VERSES OCCASIONED BY THE DEATH OF THAT ILLUSTRIOUS STATESMAN, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE WILLIAM PITT.

1.
WHEN by th' Almighty's dread command,
Elijah, call'd from Israel's land,
Rose in the sacred flame,
His Mantle good *Elisha* caught,
And with the Prophet's spirit fraught,
Her second hope became.

2.
In *Pitt* our Israel saw combin'd
The Patriot's heart—the Prophet's mind,
Elijah's spirit here;
Now, sad reverse!—that spirit rest,
No confidence, no hope is left;
For no *Elisha's* near.

3.
Is there among the greedy band,
Who've seiz'd on Power with harpy hand,
And Patriot worth assume,
One on whom publick faith can rest—
One fit to wear *Elijah's* vest,
And cheer the Nation's gloom?

4.
Grenville,—to aid thy Treasury fame,
A portion of his Mantle claim,
Pitt's generous ardour feel;
'Bove sordid self resolve to soar,
Amidst Exchequer gold be poor,
Thy wealth—the publick weak.

3.

Fox,—if on thee some remnant fall,
The ahred may to thy mind recall
Those hours of loud debate
When thy unhallow'd lips oft prais'd
"The glorious fabrick" traitors rais'd
On Bourbon's fallen state—

6.

Thy soul let *Pitt's* example fire,
With patriot zeal thy tongue inspire,
Spite of thy Gallie leaven ;
And teach thee in thy latest day,
His form of prayer, (if thou canst pray)
"O save my Country, Heaven!"

7.

Windham,—if e'er thy sorrows flow
For private loss, or publick woe,
Thy rigid brow unbend :
Tears, over *Cæsar*, *Brutus* shed,
His hatred warr'd not with the dead—
And *Pitt* was once thy friend.

8.

Does Envy bid thee *not* to mourn ?
Hold then his Mantle up to scorn,
His well-earn'd Fame assail ;
Of funeral honours rob his corse,
And at his virtues, till thou'rt hoarse,
Like curst *Thersites* rail.

9.

But know that these ungenerous deeds,
As long as age to age succeeds,
Shall prove thy glory's bane ;
That noxious as the vernal blast,
Shall on thy blighted memory cast
An everlasting stain.

10.

Illustrious Roscius of the State,
New breech'd and harness'd for debate,
Thou wonder of thy age !!!
Petty or *Betty* art thou hight
By Granta sent to strut thy night
On Stephen's busting stage ?

11.

Pitt's 'Chequer robe will *Petty* wear ?
Take of his Mantle then a share,
'Twill aid thy Ways and Means ;
And should Fat Jack, and his Cabal,
Cry "rob us the Exchequer, Hal !"
'Twill charm away those fiends.

12.

Sage Palinurus of the realm !
By *Vincent* call'd to take the helm,
And play a proxy's part ;
Dost thou a star, or compass know,
Canst reef aloft—or steer below ?
Hast conn'd the seaman's chart ?

13.

No ! from *Pitt's* Mantle tear a rag,
Enough to serve thee for a flag,
And hoist it on thy mast :
Beneath that sign (our prosperous star)
Shall future *Nelsons* rush to war,
And rival victories past.

14.

Sidmouth,—though low his head be laid
Who call'd thee from thy native shade,
And gave thee second birth ;—
Gave thee the sweets of Power and
Place,
The tufted robe—the gilded mace,
And rear'd thy puny worth :

15.

Think how his Mantle wrapp'd thee
round ;
Is one of equal virtues found
Among thy new Compeers ?
Or can thy cloak of Amiens stuff,
Once laugh'd to scorn by Blue and Buff,
Screen thee from *Windham's* jeers ?

16.

When Faction threaten'd Britain's
land,
Thy new-made friends—a desperate
band,
Like *Ahab*—stood reprov'd ;
Pitt's powerful tongue their rage could
check ;
His counsel sav'd, midst general wreck,
The Israel that he lov'd.

17.

Yes, honour'd Shade ; whilst near thy
grave
The letter'd sage, and chieftain brave,
The votive marble claim ;
O'er thy cold corse—the publick tear
Congeal'd, a chrystal shrine shall rear
Unsuilied—as thy Fame !!!

THE BOSTON REVIEW,

FOR

MAY, 1807.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quæ corrigenda, quæ excimenda, arbitraver. Nam ego dicere vero assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ART. 23.

Memoirs of Dr. Joseph Priestley, to the year 1795, written by himself; with a continuation to the time of his decease, by his son, Joseph Priestley: and observations on his writings, by Thomas Cooper, president judge of the 4th district of Pennsylvania: and the Rev. Wm. Christie. Northumberland, Penn. printed by J. Binns, 1806.

THIS work is comprised in two volumes 8vo. containing, besides the memoirs with notes, a preface by the son, Joseph Priestley; and several appendixes, giving an account of Dr. Priestley's writings, a summary of his religious opinions, concluded with a catalogue of his works. The accounts of his chemical, philosophical and metaphysical, political and miscellaneous writings, and summary of opinions, are the work of Thomas Cooper, Esq. formerly of Manchester, England. The appendix, which contains the analysis of Dr. P.'s theological writings, is from the pen of the Reverend Mr. Christie, formerly of Montrose in Scotland, and is signed Caledonicus Americanus.

Dr. Priestley's character, studies, and writings have gained no small share of the attention of his contemporaries; and may perhaps, as he intimates, be interesting to

posterity. He had a right to believe, that many of the reading and scientific world would be willing to hear him speak of himself; and his friends were naturally expected to supply omissions and deficiencies in his own memoirs by information concerning his life, his character, and publications. The object of this work is therefore to be approved. Of the merit of the execution let the reader judge; using, if he pleases, such light on the subject as we may be able to give. The authors of the additions to that part of the work composed by Dr. P. are both the historians and advocates of his conduct, the critics and, generally, the panegyrists of his writings. They are not however content with vindicating his character and supporting his opinions; but indulge themselves, especially Mr. Cooper, in a contemptuous and sometimes vulgar and abusive treatment of his opponents. Indeed the manner of this gentleman often indicates, that, in his estimation, all who are not dunces, bigots, or knaves, will admit, that Dr. P. has cleared up the principal difficulties and settled the most perplexing questions in metaphysics, theology, and even politics.

The biographical part of the work begins with Memoirs written by Dr. P., dated Birmingham 1787: and is marked by that simplicity of style and manner, and

occasional negligence of the rules of writing, which distinguish all the compositions of this author. Dr. Joseph Priestley was the oldest son of Jonas Priestley, a cloth dresser; and his mother was the daughter of a farmer at a village near Wakefield. He was born at Fieldhead, about six miles from Leeds in Yorkshire, March 13th, old style, 1733. In his childhood and youth he was sent to several schools, and had private instruction. At the age of sixteen he had acquired a pretty good knowledge of the learned languages, and had studied the Hebrew. In the interval between this and going to the academy, in 1752, three years, he read Grovesend's Elements of Natural Philosophy, Watts's Logick, Locke's Essay, &c. &c., went through a course of mathematical studies, learned Chaldee and Syriack, and began to read Arabick, also acquired French, Italian, and German. He had already at the grammar-school become acquainted with Annet's short-hand, and begun a correspondence with the author, suggesting some improvements. With these acquisitions, and with a view to the christian ministry, he entered the academy at Daventry, under the care of Mr., afterwards Dr. Ashworth as principal, and Mr. Clark sub-tutor; where, in consequence of his proficiency, he was excused all the studies of the first year and a great part of those of the second. Our author here gives an account of the formation and progress of his religious sentiments and character. His father, his aunt, and relations, with whom he lived, were strict, though not bigotted Calvinists. The instructions he received, and the books that fell in his way, were all of the same complexion; and he was at one time confirmed in the princi-

ples of Calvinism. He remembers being much distressed, that he could not feel a proper repentance for the sin of Adam, taking for granted that, without *this*, it could not be forgiven him. He observes,

'Having read many books of *experience*, and in consequence of believing that a *new birth*, produced by the immediate agency of the Spirit of God, was necessary to salvation; and not being able to satisfy myself that I had experienced any thing of the kind, I felt occasionally such distress of mind, as it is not in my power to describe, and which I still look back upon with horror. Notwithstanding I had nothing very material to reproach myself with, I often concluded that God had forsaken me; and that mine was like the case of Francis Spira, to whom, as he imagined, repentance and salvation were denied. In that state of mind I remember reading the account of the man in the iron cage, in the Pilgrim's Progress, with the greatest perturbation.

I imagine that even these conflicts of mind were not without their use, as they led me to think habitually of God and a future state. And though my feelings were then, no doubt, too full of terror, what remained of them was a deep reverence for divine things; and in time a pleasing satisfaction, which can never be effaced, and I hope was strengthened as I have advanced in life and acquired more rational notions of religion.'

The weakness of his constitution, which often led him to think he should not be long-lived, contributed with all the circumstances of his education to give him a serious turn of mind. In the congregation, to which he belonged, the business of religion was effectually attended to; children and servants were catechized in publick; and religious exercises were frequent in the week-time. He attended a weekly meeting of the young men, for conversation and prayer; and officiated in his turn.

'At my Aunt's [with whom he resided] there was a monthly meeting of

women, who acquitted themselves in prayer as well as any of the men belonging to the congregation. Being at first a child in the family, I was permitted to attend their meetings, and growing up insensibly, heard them after I was capable of judging. My Aunt after the death of her husband prayed every morning and evening in her family, until I was about seventeen, when that duty devolved upon me.

The Lord's day was kept with peculiar strictness. No victuals were dressed on that day in any family. No member of it was permitted to walk out for recreation, but the whole of the day was spent at the publick meeting, or at home in reading, meditation, and prayer, in the family or the closet.

It was my custom at that time to recollect as much as I could of the sermons I heard, and to commit it to writing. This practice I began very early, and continued it until I was able from the heads of a discourse to supply the rest myself. For, not troubling myself to commit to memory much of the amplification, and writing at home almost as much as I had heard, I insensibly acquired a habit of composing with great readiness; and from this practice I believe I have derived great advantage through life; composition seldom employing so much time as would be necessary to write in long hand any thing I have published.

By these means, not being disgusted with these strict forms of religion, as many persons of better health and spirits probably might have been, (and on which account I am far from recommending the same strictness to others) I acquired in early life a serious turn of mind. Among other things I had at this time a great aversion to *Plays and Romances*, so that I never read any works of this kind except *Robinson Crusoe*, until I went to the academy. I well remember seeing my brother Timothy reading a book of *Knight Errantry*, and with great indignation I snatched it out of his hands, and threw it away.

Some time however before going to the academy he began to relax from the strictness of orthodoxy. The conversation of some clergymen, who had adopted the 'compromising doctrine' of Baxter,

tended to 'undermine his prejudices.' 'Thinking farther on these subjects,' says he, 'I was, before I went to the academy, an Arminian; but had by no means rejected the doctrine of the Trinity, or that of atonement.'

Three years, from 1752 to 1755, he spent at the academy with peculiar satisfaction. The state of the institution, he says, was peculiarly favourable to the serious pursuit of truth. The general plan of the studies may be seen in Dr. Doddridge's Lectures. The pupils were referred to authors on both sides of every question, and required to give an account of them. The most important works they were expected to abridge for future use. The tutors, Dr. Ashworth and Mr. Clark, being of different opinions, and the students being divided upon all the articles of theological orthodoxy and heresy, these articles were the subject of continual discussion. The tutors also being very young, at least as tutors, and some of the senior pupils excelling them in several branches of study, the lectures had often the air of friendly conversations. The pupils were encouraged to ask questions, and make remarks, with the greatest, but without any offensive freedom.

The reference to Hartley's *Observations on Man*, in the lectures, brought him acquainted with that work, which immediately engaged his attention, and became the basis of his metaphysical opinions. It fixed him in the belief of *necessity*, a doctrine from which, he says, he had derived the greatest comfort and benefit through life.

When he left the academy, the extreme of his heresy was *Arianism*; with a belief, more or less qualified of the doctrine of atonement. At this place, he had com-

posed his Institutes of natural and revealed Religion. He complains that he was greatly troubled, at the time, with an impediment in his speech; but accepted an invitation to be assistant minister of a small dissenting congregation at Needham market, in Suffolk, upon a salary of 40*l.*, of which he received only 30*l.* per year; the deficiency of his support being partly supplied by occasional remittances from Dr. Benson and Dr. Kippis, obtained from different charities. Though he avoided controversy in the pulpit, he fell under a suspicion of Arianism by his manner of treating the Unity of God in his lectures, and his colleague and hearers were dissatisfied; so that in 1758 he left the situation for Nantwich in Cheshire, where he was a minister and schoolmaster for three years. Before leaving Needham, in consequence, he says, of much pains and thought he came to reject the doctrine of atonement; of the inspiration of the authors of the books of scripture, as *writers*; and all idea of supernatural influence, except for the purpose of miracles. He published a treatise on the *Doctrine of Remission*. He also composed a treatise on English Grammar, printed 1761; and *Observations on the Character and Reasoning of the apostle Paul*, published afterwards in the Theological Repository.

From Nantwich he removed to Warrington, to be tutor in the languages at the new dissenting academy in that place. Here he delivered lectures, on the Theory of Language; on Oratory and Criticism; on History and general Policy; on the Laws, Constitution, and History of England; most of which were then, or soon after, printed or published. It was also his province, in this place of edu-

cation, to teach Elocution, Logic, and Hebrew. The two last branches of instruction, after two years, he exchanged with Dr. Aikin, for the *Civil Law*; and one year he gave a course of lectures in Anatomy. In the midst of all these employments, he completed and printed his *Chart of Biography, and History of Electricity*; the study of the subject of the latter, the experiments it details, the composition and publication being all executed in the leisure of a year, occupied in the manner before related.

On the second year after his arrival at Warrington, he married a daughter of Mr. Isaac Wilkinson, an iron master, at Wrexham, in Wales. He speaks with emphasis of the comfort he found in this connexion; of the amiable and respectable qualities of the lady; and her providence and affection in taking upon herself all the cares of the household.

After six years service at Warrington, for a bare subsistence, he accepted the pastoral office at Leeds, in 1767. By the practice of reading very loud and very slow every day, he had, in some measure, surmounted the impediment in his speech. Here he resumed the study of speculative theology, and by reading with care Dr. Lardner's *Letter on the Logos*, he became a Socinian, and observes, that, after the closest attention to the subject, he continually saw more reason to be satisfied with the truth, as well as impressed with the importance of that view of christianity.

The press teemed with his publications on theology and politics, and other subjects. During this period, a treatise on Perspective; his *Harmony of the Evangelists*; *Catechisms*; *Address to masters of families, on prayer*; *Institutes*,

&c., saw the light. Here he began to make experiments on air ; being led to the subject by attending to the phenomenon of fixed air, in a brewery adjoining ; and in 1772, he produced a pamphlet on the subject, which interested the scientific part of the community.

After six years residence at Leeds, he accepted an invitation from the late Marquis of Lansdowne, then Earl of Shelburne, to reside with his lordship, as librarian, or rather literary companion and friend, with an establishment of a house and 250*l.* per year, and 150*l.* for life, in case of their previous separation. During his connexion with his lordship, which continued seven years, he visited, in his company, France, Holland, and some parts of Germany. He pursued his chemical inquiries, and published four volumes of experiments on air ; Observations on Education ; Lectures on Oratory and Criticism ; the third part of the Institutes of natural and revealed Religion ; a Reply to the Scotch metaphysicians, Reid, Oswald, and Beattie ; that part of Hartley on Man, relating to the association of ideas ; a Harmony of the Gospels, and a controversy with Archbp. Newcomb, on the duration of our Lord's ministry ; and Disquisitions on Matter and Spirit.

For two years before he left the Marquis, he had perceived marks of dissatisfaction, of which he knew not the cause ; and finally they parted in friendship. Dr. P. spent the following winter in London, where he was much with Dr. Franklin. He then removed to Birmingham, where he succeeded Mr. Hawkes, as minister and colleague with Mr. Blyth, in a congregation, which he praises for its liberality. Here he continued his

philosophical pursuits, and composed and sent from the press the Corruptions of Christianity ; Correspondence with Dr. Horsley ; and History of early opinions concerning Jesus Christ. And after these, in consequence of the number of his antagonists, he wrote an annual pamphlet in defence of the Unitarian doctrine, against all his opponents.

Such is the sketch of the Memoirs of himself, to 1787. There is a short continuation, by his own hand, bringing them to the year 1795, when he was at Northumberland. He thought he had the prospect of passing the remnant of his life happily at Birmingham ; but he was continually growing more obnoxious to the friends of the government, and of the establishment. At length, when several of his friends celebrated the French revolution, July 14, 1791, a mob collected, and set fire to the dissenting meeting-houses, and to several dwelling-houses of dissenters ; among others, that of Dr. P., and demolished his library, apparatus, and papers. He was forced to take refuge from their fury, in the metropolis. Sometime after his arrival there, he was chosen to succeed Dr. Price, at Hackney ; and was a lecturer in the new college in that place. But the prejudices against him being very strong, and his sons emigrating to the United States, he followed them to this country in April, 1794, where he settled at Northumberland, a town situated at the confluence of the north-east, and west branches of the Susquehanna, and about 130 miles north-west of Philadelphia.

From this period the Memoirs are continued by the son, Joseph Priestley. The first part of this continuation is occupied with a long

statement of the reasons, which induced Dr. P. to leave England ; and a refutation of the opinion, that he had cause to be dissatisfied with his reception here, or was disappointed in his expectation of respect, consideration, and enjoyment in this land of freedom, and 'asylum of oppressed humanity.' In his new situation Dr. P. continued his theological and philosophical studies and experiments. For two or three winters after his arrival he delivered lectures on the Evidences of Christianity, in Philadelphia. In the successive years till his death he composed and published the remaining volumes of his Church History, Notes on the Scriptures, a Comparison of the Institutions of the Mosaick Religion with those of the Hindoos, several pamphlets and communications to societies upon philosophical subjects and in defence of phlogiston, &c. In 1799, thinking his political character and sentiments misunderstood and misrepresented, he published letters on politics, which, his son thinks, satisfied the liberal and candid, and procured him friends. Whilst he was looking forward with pleasure to future exertions in the fields of science, his constitution began to fail. He became subject to a constant indigestion, extremely troublesome, and attended with increasing debility. He wrote and read however till the last, and died apparently in the full vigour of his mind and with the utmost tranquillity and even cheerfulness. We extract the description of his last hours :

'On Saturday, the 4th, my father got up for about an hour while his bed was made. He said he felt more comfortable in bed than up. He read a good deal, and looked over the first sheet of the third volume of the Notes, that he might see how we were likely to go on with it ; and having examined the

Greek and Hebrew quotations, and finding them right, he said he was satisfied we should finish the work very well. In the course of the day, he expressed his gratitude in being permitted to die quietly in his family, without pain, with every convenience and comfort he could wish for. He dwelt upon the peculiarly happy situation in which it had pleased the Divine. Being to place him in life ; and the great advantage he had enjoyed in the acquaintance and friendship of some of the best and wisest men in the age in which he lived, and the satisfaction he derived from having led an useful as well as a happy life.

On Sunday he was much weaker, and only sat up in an armed chair while his bed was made. He desired me to read to him the eleventh chapter of John. I was going on to read to the end of the chapter, but he stopped me at the 45th verse. He dwelt for some time on the advantage he had derived from reading the scriptures daily, and advised me to do the same ; saying, that it would prove to me, as it had done to him, a source of the purest pleasure. He desired me to reach him a pamphlet which was at his bed's head, Simpson on the Duration of future Punishment. "It will be a source of satisfaction to you to read that pamphlet," said he, giving it to me. "It contains my sentiments, and a belief in them will be a support to you in the most trying circumstances, as it has been to me. We shall all meet finally : we only require different degrees of discipline, suited to our different tempers, to prepare us for final happiness." Upon Mr. ——— coming into his room, he said, "You see, Sir, I am still living."

Mr. ——— observed, he would always live. "Yes," said he, "I believe I shall ; and we shall all meet again in another and a better world." He said this with great animation, laying hold on Mr. ———'s hand in both his.

Before prayers he desired me to reach him three publications, about which he would give me some directions next morning. His weakness would not permit him to do it at that time.

At prayers he had all the children brought to his bed-side as before. After prayers they wished him a good night, and were leaving the room. He desired them to stay, spoke to them each separately. He exhorted them

all to continue to love each other. "And you, little thing," speaking to Eliza, "remember the hymn you learned; 'Birds in their little nests agree,' &c. I am going to sleep as well as you: for death is only a good long sound sleep in the grave, and we shall meet again." He congratulated us on the dispositions of our children; said it was a satisfaction to see them likely to turn out well; and continued for some time to express his confidence in a happy immortality, and in a future state, which would afford us an ample field for the exertion of our faculties.

On Monday morning, the 6th of February, after having lain perfectly still till four o'clock in the morning, he called to me, but in a fainter tone than usual, to give him some wine and tincture of bark. I asked him how he felt. He answered, he had no pain, but appeared fainting away gradually. About an hour after, he asked me for some chicken broth, of which he took a tea-cup full. His pulse was quick, weak, and fluttering, his breathing, though easy, short. About 8 o'clock, he asked me to give him some egg and wine. After this he lay quite still till ten o'clock, when he desired me and Mr. Cooper to bring him the pamphlets we had looked out the evening before. He then dictated as clearly and distinctly as he had ever done in his life the additions and alterations he wished to have made in each. Mr. Cooper took down the substance of what he said, which, when he had done, I read to him. He said Mr. Cooper had put it in his own language; he wished it to be put in his. I then took a pen and ink to his bed-side. He then repeated over again, nearly word for word, what he had before said; and when I had done, I read it over to him. "That is right; I have now done." About half an hour after he desired, in a faint voice, that we would move him from the bed on which he lay to a cot, that he might lie with his lower limbs horizontal, and his head upright. He died in about ten minutes after we had moved him, but breathed his last so easy, that neither myself or my wife, who were both sitting close to him, perceived it at the time. He had put his hand to his face, which prevented our observing it."

Observations, suggested by the Memoirs, and the review of other
Vol. IV. No. 5. . Kk

parts of this publication, will appear in the next Anthology.

ART. 23.

The New Cyclopædia, &c. by Abraham Rees and others. First American Edition, revised, corrected, enlarged, and adapted to this country, by several literary and scientific characters. Vol. I. Part II. Philadelphia, Samuel F. Bradford. 4to.

THE honour of our country was deeply interested in the protest, we made against the practices of the American Editors of this work in publishing the first part of the first volume. In the republication of foreign books, of inferior importance, by printers without character, we have learned, by melancholy experience, to expect shameful mutilations of fact, and perversions of sentiment. But this valuable Universal Dictionary of Arts and Sciences was announced to the American publick with such promising auspices, 'revised, corrected, enlarged, and adapted to this country by several literary and scientific characters,' that to have suspected it, would have been criminal. From these literary and scientific characters we could not expect the artifices of African traders, who dilute and adulterate their liquors, because they can do it without raising any jealousy in the ignorant purchasers.

The appearance of the first number confounded our hopes. The publisher we knew, and him we trusted; but this knot of nameless editors, without responsibility, imposing on the printer and the publick, have degraded our literary character by folly without parallel, and meanness without example. The imputation shall not however be universal.

From the garblings of the articles on religion we conclude, either, that the American Editors, confident in their own principles, were desirous of assuming infallibility and compelling us to follow them without examination; or, feeling their own weakness, were too diffident to meet the trans-atlantick theologians on equal ground in the arena of argument. On the horns of this dilemma we leave them to dangle. If the infidelity of Gibbon and the heresy of Priestley are to be controverted, let it be with decency, and let them be heard.

Nor was it only of the treatment of topics in theology, that we complained. The biography of Abernethy, one of the best Christians since the reformation, was so shamefully perverted, that it seemed, our Philadelphia publishers were to be alone holy in life, as well as infallible in doctrine. Though nearly 70 years have elapsed, since his body was committed to the grave, they have, like the vampire, torn it from its sanctuary and endeavoured to defile it.

Tantane animis caelestibus ira?

Dwells there such anger in religious souls?

The general sentiment of indignation at such practices was uttered in so audible a manner, as to draw from the printer assurances, that he would 'give the text of the English Edition entire, except when erroneous in point of fact; and at the same time counteract the tendency of any pernicious doctrines, which it might be found to contain, by additional remarks and references, distinguished by crotches from the original article.' The Editors wince a little at being so confined to the text, and in the third number, article ANGEL, explain the principles, on which they

shall conduct the commentary: Far be it from us to 'sympathise with hereticks and infidels;' and far be from us, infallible doctors of Philadelphia, any fear of openly canvassing the merits of your labours. We propose henceforward to examine chiefly the additions of the American Editors, and hope to pursue the subject monthly, till we overtake the publishers, and then to proceed with them in equal pace.

With the publisher's promises for the future we are satisfied; and, if they shall be adhered to, we earnestly desire the success of the undertaking. But the former offence can hardly be expiated without reprinting the first half-volume, *as it should be*, to satisfy the honour of the country, which they have stained; the laws of morality, which they have violated; the subscribers, whom they have wronged; and the publick, that they have insulted.

We shall expect in the American Edition, that the corrections and improvements, on subjects of geography, especially of our own country, will exceed in number those of all other branches of science. Some disappointment therefore is felt, when we find the article ALBANY, extracted into our Philadelphia Edition in the same words, which the English have used. The population of the city is settled by the general census of 1801, though the older census is followed in this book. Under this head the new articles of this quarto are sixteen in number, and cover perhaps a page and a half. They are ALCINO Mont, a small town of Tuscany; ALCONCHOL, a castle in Spain; ALDERTON Point, in our harbour of Boston; ALFRED, a small village in York county and district of Maine; ALLAN SHREE,

the ancient Philadelphia, in Asia Minor; ALMSBURY, on Merrimack river, in the county of Essex, which we believe should be spelt Amesbury; ALFNACH, a town of Switzerland; ALSTREAD, a small town in the county of Cheshire, state of New-Hampshire; ALTEN, a river of Norway; ALTIKBAEK, a tribe of barbarians of Mount Caucasus; ALTORF, an insignificant town in Germany in the circle of Swabia; ALTUN KUPFEE, a city of Kurdistan; ALTYN OBO, a hill in the Crimea; ALVIDRAS, a remarkable rock of Portugal, near Lisbon; ALEPKA, a village of the Crimea; ALY-GHUR, a fort in India. Of these articles it will be seen, that most are of little value; yet they display the carefulness of the American Editors. An article of more importance, we believe, than any of these, is omitted in both publications. ALTAVELA, a small island in the West Indies, south of Cape Beata on the shore of Hispaniola. It is very high, and on account of its shape is one of the most distinguishable landmarks in the Caribbean Sea.

Additions are made to the articles in geography, ALBERBURGH, ALEPPO, ALEXANDRIA, ALHUIS, ALLEGHANY River, ALLEGHANY Mountains, ALNWICK, ALSTON Moor, ALTDORF, ALFS. The new matter may amount to another page and a half. The articles ALEPPO and ALLEGHANY only have any material gain from our American publishers. On Dr. Russell's directions for avoiding the plague, under the former of them, the American Editors have some useful remarks. But we must protest against a word, that three times thrust itself into their half-page. We believe the English language knows no such word, as 'preventative.' We

have indeed a trisyllable, that conveys the meaning, intended by those writers, and perhaps *preventive* sounds as well, as the word now made with two letters more.

But we have a cause of complaint, relating to several of these articles, last mentioned; which is, that when only a sentence, or a paragraph is added, the whole head is claimed by the brackets, that we thought were to distinguish the respective property of the English and American authors. Can it be possible, that the Philadelphia publishers would have their subscribers believe, that the work of Dr. Rees and his coadjutors is so imperfect, as to want such articles as ALEXANDRIA and ALLEGHANY? It may however be admitted, as an excuse for this error, that this is the first No., in which the Addenda were to be divided from the original. We shall therefore expect more carefulness in future.

ALBUGO. We cannot find, as the American Editors refer to Ware on Cataract, the mode of restoring vision in a certain case. We should not expect a recommendation of such practice from that author; for in one part of his work he observes, that, when the iris is simply punctured or divided, its edges are very apt to come together and reunite. In cases therefore, in which the pupil is closed, he recommends the formation of a new pupil by the excision of a flap, or semi-circular portion of the iris. The other observations upon articles of medical science are, we believe, judicious and correct.

To the article ALEMBERT a short paragraph is added by the republishers, expressive of regret, that his virtues 'should have been found in alliance with principles, tending to the destruction of all

virtue.' Another brief observation on the character of ALEXANDER VI., derived from Roscoe's *Leo X.*, and a notice of ALONZO, that we expect to meet in the English under OJEDA, is the sum of the additions on biography. We know not, that the Editors on this side of the Atlantick could have introduced any other new head in this part of the first volume. We will however remark for their benefit, that, in the first part, the biography of SAMUEL ADAMS was unsatisfactory : and that we hope more in the notices of BELKNAP and CLARKE, two of the brightest ornaments of American literature.

ALIBI has gained a single sentence, which makes the description in the American Edition better than that of the English ; but like the articles, of which we spoke above, it is all included in brackets, though not worth claiming from the foreign publishers.

ALIEN has acquired a paragraph, in which are two mistakes of the press, ' *qua*' for ' *quasi*,' we presume ; and ' 2 Ver.' for ' 2 Vez.'

The next addition is of the word ALLEY; a passage between opposite buildings, which proves the carefulness of our Philadelphia publishers to supply all the deficiencies of the original.

Several quotations of the use of the figure ALLITERATION do not, we believe, give any additional force to the remarks in the English Cyclopædia. It is a decoration of little value ; though, unless eagerly introduced per fas et nefas, not indicative of false refinement. It lends considerable strength to an antithesis: ' What though he riots in the plunder of the army, and has only determined to be a patriot, when he could not be a *steer*.'

ALLUSION. The American editors have here made the best re-

mark we find among their labours. The simile and the allusion from Goldsmith, are well placed in opposition, to discriminate their respective force. It is a species of comparison of great weight, and by its brevity is usually more interesting, than an allegory or a simile. Junius, the poignant writer of short sentences, abounds in the use of it. His reference to the Roman Catholick church denying the cup to the laity, if it may be thought free from levity, is an excellent instance. Lord Weymouth, he says, must have bread, or rather he must have wine. ' If you deny him the cup, there will be no keeping him within the pale of the ministry.'

In the article ALLUVION, a short account is given of the formation of the banks of the river Mississippi, and their gradual protrusion into the gulf of Mexico. Here we meet a very glaring mistake. ' At New-Orleans, three hundred miles above the present mouth of the river.' We had thought that every man, woman, and child in the United States, was so well acquainted with that part of our dominions, as to know, that that city is only thirty-five leagues from the river's mouth.

Of the last addition we have to mention, which is under the word ALVAH, we can only remark, that we do not apprehend the meaning of the sentence.

The American Editors can claim no great honours for the additions to this part of the first volume ; yet we are not prepared to say, that they have not subjoined to every article whatever was wanting, and perhaps inserted every necessary subject, neglected by their predecessors. In this number their addenda do not amount to more than four or five pages ; but we hope the ensuing volumes will af-

ford us more novelty to examine, and more excellence to praise.

The printer has most honourably performed his engagements to the publick. The type is much neater than the English; the ink, too, is better, and the paper whiter; but we fear the American, having a large mixture of cotton in its composition, will be less durable than the English. The typographical errors are less numerous, than might have been feared; yet sufficiently so, to afford us some vexation.

In AHLWAROT, *immorality* for *immortality*.

For AHUYS, read Åhus.

ST. ALBAN. A comma, carelessly inserted in the English verses, confuses their meaning, and we can learn it only by turning to the Latin.

Under ALCAIC ODE, the line *sors exitura, &c.*, is quoted in two different ways, of which the last is right.

ALCMANIAN has two errors, *cano* for *canto*, and *munere* for *munera*; but both are borrowed from the English work.

ALCOHOL. The citation of the verses from Juvenal, is incorrect in both editions.

ALHUYs, should read Alhus.

* { ALLEVEURE, Half-öre.
 { ALMSTAD, † Halmstad.

In a work of this kind it cannot be excused, under any presence, to alter the spelling of a word, in a foreign language, for the purpose of assimilating the original pro-

* These two words are probably copied from a French author, who may have supposed the letter H mute, from a mistaken pronunciation. Whereas the fact is, that throughout the Swedish language, the letter H is always aspirated before a vowel, and mute before a consonant.

† There is no town of that name in Sweden.

nunciation of the word to that of the language in which we write.

ALL SOULS. *Joxtin* for *Jortin*; *Almaer* for *Almaar*.

Under ALMON. *Tiberin* for *Tiberim*.

ART. 24.

Poems by Richard B. Davis; with a sketch of his life.

‘A simple, solitary bard was he.’

New-York, T. & J. Swords.
 1807. 12mo.

THE sketch of Mr. Davis's life, which is prefixed to this little collection, has prepossessed us much in his favour, as a man; but we shall be extremely careful, that this opinion do not interfere with our consideration of him, as a poet. This collection is very miscellaneous, and the poems, generally, of no inconsiderable length. ‘An elegy on a broken flute’ is the first in the series, and, we are told, the earliest production of our poet's Muse. In this performance, tho' altogether respectable for the first essay, yet we find very little to amuse, and nothing to cause our admiration. The versification, excepting an hiatus here and there, is tolerable; and the rhymes are invariably correct. The two next poems are altogether negative, and far inferior to the first; they are remarkable only for four or five instances of bad rhyme, and one grammatical error. We now come to the ‘Hymn of the Morning Stars,’ in which, there is an appearance of labour, and, we are sorry to say, to very little purpose. The design of this poem is truly happy; but the execution comparatively wretched. ‘Celestial harmony symphonious rung,’ and ‘Hail to the power supreme, clothed in the glories of omniscience,’

are tautological expressions. The word, *beatifick*, is misapplied, for it is appropriated to heavenly enjoyments after death. To say, 'en-thrased in regions of *uncreated* light,' is ridiculous : we may as well say, 'placed on an *uncreated* stool' ; and this rhyme,

Through the vast expanse of the uni-
verse,—
And fix it in immortal characters,

would not have disgraced the tin-governable pen of Sternhold or Hopkins. When speaking of Jehovah, the poet has this expression, 'On the thick bosses of his buckler rush'd ;' the absurdity here is evident. This little poem is by no means without some excellent lines, and beautiful expressions.

'Thence distant worlds shall catch the
glorious strain,
And heav'n's eternal arch th' exalted
notes retain.

CHORUS.

Seraphs ! begin the sacred sound,
Empyrean echoes ! bear it round,
Let world to world the joy convey,
Far as extends creation's day ;
Cherubick harps ! the notes prolong,
And fondly dwell upon the song.'

There are some others, but the performance is very unequal.

This poem is followed by a number of others, not worth an examination here ; and, among these, one 'to a sleeping infant,' which begins *frettilly* enough, and ends *very frettilly* ; but when the poet pronounced the following :

'On his hard couch when restless
a'rice quakes,'

we presume the infant must have been very considerably roused, by the rough sibilation of the line.

The next in order, of which we can make up our mouths to say any thing, is the 'Exile.' From the first stanza, we were led to hope for a pretty little poem ; but the hopes of man are blasted in a mo-

ment, and this little production is the vilest, on the whole, that we have seen throughout the book :

..... 'turpiter atrum,
Desinit in pisces mulier formosa su-
perne.'

In the 'Summer Evening' there is this expression, 'evening sheds her silver smile.' We can shed our blood, a serpent can shed his skin, &c., but we do not conceive it possible to shed a smile. The 'Elegy on the death of Dr. Joseph Youle,' is very much like a sermon in verse, without possessing one characteristick of a good discourse. The verse is so inharmonious, that it would have answered very well, instead of Demosthenes' pebblestones. Who can pronounce the second line of this performance, without some compassion for the society, before whom it was delivered ?

'Sorrow, thy louder ecstasies restrain'

We next come to the 'Epitaph on my Grandmother,' which we cannot resist the pleasure of transcribing, it is so perfectly harmless :

Sweet are the peaceful slumbers of the
just,
And guardian angels watch their sac-
red dust ;
Death is to them in richest mercy giv-
en,
To them the tomb is but the gate of
heaven.'

This is an epitaph on Mr. Davis' grandmother, although it would suit any other grandmother perfectly as well. We do not censure Mr. Davis for writing ridiculous and unmeaning verses on his grandmother ; but we consider his editors highly culpable, for inserting, in this little volume, this and many other performances, which do not amount even to the dignity of trifles. In the 'Ode from Horace,' we were induced to hope for something classical, but we are

obliged to apply the shepherd's admonition, in its full force, 'nimium ne crede colori.' There is often too great distance between the design and execution, and this position is admirably realized in the translation of this little ode. It is intended as a translation of the seventh ode of the third book, 'Ad Asterien;' which Dr. Francis has barbarously murdered with his clerical quill; and whoever will trouble himself to survey the Doctor's translation, will see how cruelly he has mangled poor Asteria, and that she expires, not without many groans. Now, that such a kind-hearted man, as Mr. Davis is represented to have been, should ever take it into his head to murder poor Asteria over again, is past all bearing; and we shall therefore be as just to his translation, as we possibly can. Mr. Davis has changed the name Gyges for Damon, because the latter was somewhat *frettier* and *softer*, &c., but he has here already stepped one foot out of the way of a translator. He knew well enough that Gyges did not mean Damon. Had he intended this as an imitation, he might have called him Corydon, or Balthazar, or any thing he pleased; but, as a translator, he should have called him Gyges. In the translation of the first stanza, he has omitted 'Thynâ merce beatum.' In the second, he has omitted 'Ille notis actus ad Oricum.' What he means by 'Guided by the midnight star,' we can form no sort of conjecture; if he has contrived to weave this line out of 'Post insana Capræ sidera,' he is truly a most ingenious weaver, for this passage is directly contrary to the signification he has given it. But we are tired of this: in short, this 'ode from Horace' is not from Horace. The fundamental rules,

established by Dr. Campbell, of Aberdeen, are three. 1...That the translation should give a complete transcript of the ideas of the original. 2...That the style and manner of the original should be preserved in the translation. 3...That the translation should have all the ease of the original composition. In all these points, Mr. Davis has failed; and we are sorry, since the versification of this ode has given us the best example of his art, in the mechanics of metrical composition.

The 'Elegy on an old wig found in the street,' might have been a much better elegy than it is. It is a good subject for mock-elegy, and Mr. Davis has, for the most part, handled it with palsied fingers. In justice to merit, however, we cannot pass over these truly facetious stanzas without wishing, that the author had been as fortunate in the other parts of the poem, as in that, where he addresses the wig;

'Some judge sagacious, learned in the law,
Us'd thee, perhaps, his solemn frown
t'improve;
While culprits, juries, courts, with
rev'rend awe,
Shook like Olympus at the nod of Jove.
Some grave professor's head has been
thy place,
Haply 'twas thine his office to bespeak;
While, clinging closely round his clas-
sick face,
Each learned curl seem'd buckled stiff
with Greek.

Some bard, perhaps, in meditation deep,
Some student hard of Demosthenian
stamp,
Giving to study the soft hours of sleep,
Hath sing'd thy tresses at the midnight
lamp.'

The adjective, formed from Demosthenes, is Demosthenean; the antepenult short, & the penult long. The other poems, in this collection, are of no importance to the

critick ; for they will produce no effect upon the reader, either pleasant or otherwise. They belong to that numerous tribe of negative productions, that are published every day, which are read, and are forgotten ; for they have no adhesive quality, whereby they can fasten themselves upon the mind, and perpetuate their remembrance.

This collection of poems is, on the whole, hardly worth the trouble of perusing. The ideas are considerably poetical in some of these performances, although novelty is the least prominent feature on the face of this collection. The execution of these verses is by no means rude, and by no means polished. The versification, however, is very unequal. We are very far from saying these verses are composed, 'Musis et Apolline nullo,' but we do not hesitate to affirm, they are composed, *Musis et Apolline parvo*.

Wishing does not belong to our province, but we cannot prevent ourselves from wishing, that Mr. Davis had lived to a more advanced age ; or that he had applied himself more studiously to poetry, in his earlier years. Had this been the case, we should have had the satisfaction of enjoying the fruits of a genius more matured, and the Muses would not have blushed when weeping on his grave.

ART. 25.

Letters to a young lady, on a course of English Poetry. By J. Aikin, M. D. Boston : Published by Munroe & Francis, and by Thomas & Whipple, Newburyport. 1806. 12mo.

THIS is a choice little work, and brings the pupil very pleasantly acquainted with the poets. It is

written with that even judgment and just taste, for which the Doctor is distinguished, and though less laboured, intentionally perhaps, than the popular Letters to his Son, is in no respect unworthy the author. To be at once easy, entertaining, and instructive, requires a union of talents, which is rarely possessed, and which the Doctor, not deserving perhaps of the first honours of criticism, may be allowed to enjoy in an eminent degree. If the performance of more than we promise entitle us to praise, we conceive ourselves indebted to the author to the amount of another compliment ; for his present labour is not only worthy, as he would have it, of the attention of a young student of poetry, but may be read with edification by the oldest admirer of the Muses.

We understand that some of the wits of England accuse the Aikins of book-making ; an employment, it seems, not the most honourary which letters afford, and in nowise, we should presume, appropriate to any branch of the family. If the lighter, but useful, publications, which Mrs. Barbauld and her brother have obligingly put together for the improvement of youth, are considered as specimens of this kind of manufacture, we can only observe, that we feel a respect for the craft, and wish success to its partners. It may appear rash in us to call in question the awards of our superiours, and we hope for our own sakes, that what we have heard may be traced in the end to the scandalous club ; yet we cannot avoid expressing our disapprobation of any ungentle remarks upon the Doctor and his connexions. If they are not to be admitted on the valued file of authors, we should

like to be directed, in this dearth of polite literature, to those whose pretensions are fairer. We suspect that their numbers are easily computed; unless the eccentrics of the new school of poetry are to be thrown into the account, who compose elegies on asses, or annually lie-in with an epick. The occasion, however, of this disaffection to the Doctor is readily explained. There are in all literary communities a set of difficult sparks, who pronounce every thing execrable, which is not positively divine, and with one sweeping clause cut up by the root a second-rate author, with the same unconcern, as they cut open his leaves. But we have been too long acquainted with the pretensions of inferiour excellence not to allow, that there is much worth preserving, which falls short of their standard. Though the Doctor in his poetical criticisms may be less copious than Johnson, or elaborate than Hurd, he has performed to the utmost what he seems to have intended, and we could wish, that his opponents were invariably as fortunate.

It is a reviving reflection to an author, that it is not in the power of a name to destroy his pretensions; that though the world may be set against him for a time by the oracle of the day, he will attain in the end the celebrity he merits. Notwithstanding Johnson's reputation as a critick, it has been suspected of late that his taste was confined, and it is now considered excusable to fall out with the Prefaces. Poor Collins is every day getting better of the faint praise of his friend, and it is thought that the bard may yet pass for a prophet. We must not be charged with a want of reverence for the Rambler, for there

are none more alive to his merits, than the gentlemen of the Anthology. We know, that he moved in the literary world with the firm step and imposing port of a giant, but it cannot be concealed, that he sometimes passed, unimpressed, by a sublimity, and sometimes uncouthly set his foot on a grace. In pursuing the track of his predecessor, in the series before us, Doctor Aikin has occasionally done justice to those, who have suffered by his severity. Among the numbers, who have been reinstated in their literary claims, we were happy to notice the eccentric Dean of St. Patrick's. Whether, because Johnson's aristocracy was hurt by the Doctor's familiarities with the great, or because his Deanship had neglected to procure him a degree, or on what account, or no account, he entertained his dislike, our readers, if disposed, may conjecture for themselves: but we are convinced, either for something or nothing, that he was inclined to disparage both the man and his works. However, the superiority of Swift is not easily veiled; and those, who would deny him the first praise as a wit, may expect to be accused of stupidity or prejudice. Sheridan has lately acquainted us with the moral excellences of the Drapier, and Doctor Aikin has now pronounced him a writer *perfect* in his kind.

With the criticisms on Hammond and Young (we beg pardon of the Muses for coupling them) we are not, we confess, so perfectly satisfied. We conceive that the Doctor has spoken rather timidly in praise of the latter, and and that he might, conscientiously, have said less of the former. Upon the merits of the Love Elegies perhaps we ought to be silent,

for some time has elapsed since we had the heart to peruse them. However, should we, from existing impressions, venture an opinion concerning them, we should agree, what with the cloying nature of their theme, and the die-away style, in which it is treated, that they were peculiarly adapted to give one a surfeit.

'Love, only love, their forceless numbers mean.'

Of any ill effects, that might attend a close acquaintance with the Night Thoughts, we cannot conceive. Few minds, we believe, owe their melancholy or cheerfulness to the influence of song; and the fears, which our author entertains of the dejected muse of Doctor Young, appear, we must say, altogether extravagant. Besides, allowing the lady aforesaid to be rather grave in her suggestions, the critic should recollect that it is wholesome, occasionally, to visit the tombs. We own we love at midnight to follow this mournful sister of poesy over the uneven footing of the church yard, or to pause with her by moonlight on the broken colonade.

'The tombs
And monumental caves of death look
cold,
And shoot a chillness to my trembling
heart.
Give me thy hand, and let me hear thy
voice.'

Were we to go into a particular criticism upon this performance, we should exceed the usual limits allotted to a notice; we must therefore content ourselves with a general acknowledgment of its merits. To say, simply, that we have been pleased with the style in which it is executed, would be indirectly to withhold what we consider its due. Perhaps no production of a critical cast could

have been rendered more entertaining; and its airiness is not obtained at the expense of sound comment.

This work is neatly executed.

ART. 26.

The Echo: printed at the Porcutine Press, by Pasquin Petronius. 8vo. New-York, 1807.

OF the type and paper of this volume, which contains 331 pages, we may justly speak with approbation. The plates likewise, which are eight in number, designed by Tisdale, and engraved by Leney, possess considerable merit. That of the negro-ball contains an admirable likeness of a *ci-devant* governor of this state. The work itself is said to be the production of various political wits in Connecticut, who, at different periods, have employed their talents in ludicrously versifying the prosaick absurdities, which occasionally appeared in the democratic papers. The Echo amused the publick for the moment, was read, excited a laugh, and was forgotten.

We little expected to see a performance, thus local in its subjects, and therefore not likely to excite more than a temporary interest, come forward, at the expiration of several years, in all the dignity of octavo, and ornamented with splendid type, paper, and engravings; nor did we imagine, that the crude and unfinished trifles of an idle hour, would obtrude themselves on the grave tribunal of profest criticism. Vanity is said to be our national foible, and we are sorry that the authors of the Echo have afforded additional confirmation to the truth of the remark.

We cannot, indeed, discover sufficient merit, in the contents of

this volume, to justify re-publication, which, we firmly believe, can now be read with interest by the writers only. At the same time, we enter our protest against this custom of book-making, by which we are invited to purchase, at an advanced price, what we have already paid for. Should this volume succeed, it may operate as an encouragement for the revival of much deceased trash, and may awaken from the peaceful slumber of oblivion, the *Gleanings* of the *Centinel*, the *Flowers* of the *Repertory*, and the *Beauties* of the *Palladium*. We fear, that New-England wit can be relished only in New-England; and if M'Fingal is an exception, that exception only proves the rule. We excel more in judgment, than in imagination, like the inhabitants of Scotland, whom we are thought greatly to resemble, where wit is so rare a prodigy, as to have become almost proverbial. In the *Echo* there is some broad *humour*; a severe critic would say vulgarity, but no wit. We are not yet arrived at a sufficient height of civilization to write satire like gentlemen; as would be soon discovered, were Horace as well understood as he deserves to be:

Defendente vicem modò rhetoris, atque poetæ;
Interdum urbani, parcentis viribus, atque
Extenuantibus eas consultò.

HOR. S. 10. l. 1.

ART. 27.

An account of the life and writings of James Beattie, L.L.D. late professor of moral philosophy and logic in the Marischal college and university of Aberdeen. Including many of his original letters. By Sir William Forbes, of

Pittligo, Bart. one of the executors of Dr. Beattie.

Marum rerum omnium vel in primis, &c. &c.
CICERO pro Archia.

New-York, published by Brisbane & Brannan, No. 1, City-Hotel, Broadway. 1807. 8vo.

THE rage for book-making seems lately to have vented itself by *Memoirs, Lives, and Biographical Sketches*. When a man, who has attained to any literary eminence, expires, the biographer anticipates the undertaker, and issues proposals for his 'Life,' before the publick have fairly received the intelligence of his death. It has been well observed by Mason, in his *Life of Gray*, that 'the lives of men of letters seldom abound with incidents. A reader does not find in the memoirs of a philosopher or poet, the same species of entertainment or information, which he would receive from those of a statesman or general. He expects, however, to be informed or entertained,' &c. &c. But of what consequence to the world is the domestick history of men, who have passed their days in studious seclusion, and who have taken no active part in the great drama of life? Would not that, which is most essential to be known, shine brighter through the medium of their literary labours? We do not mean by this to confine their 'names,' and their 'history,' to the 'storied urn;' (the reader would, sometimes, be little bettered by this bargain); our only intention is to check the *spinsters* and the *knitters* of *Lives, Sketches, and Memoirs*, in their tedious tales, and in wearying us with the trifling anecdotes of men, whose works we view with as much delight, as we look upon their private lives with indifference. Sir William tells us in

his appendix to this octavo, that he intended to have inserted the 'Diary, which Dr. Beattie kept of the number of days he was reading Homer;' but finding upon calculation 'that it did not exceed what any young man, with no extraordinary degree of application, might accomplish,' he thought proper to withhold it; and thus the world is deprived of the number of days, and perhaps hours and minutes, consumed by the Doctor, in his 'perusal of Homer.' We are very glad, that we know in what state his gown was, in which he was wrapped while reading it; for he tells us himself, in a letter to the Rev. Dr. Majeudie, that it was 'very ragged,' and, for that reason, facetiously compares himself to Socrates.

Of all the ways of presenting a man to the world, hitherto devised, that of publishing his private letters is perhaps the most unfair. It is like taking a man out of his bed, or pulling him from his closet, to thrust him into company, where it is indecent to be seen in an undress. Letters intended for publication are always dull things at best; and those meant only for the eye of a friend ought never to appear in print. The former commonly possess too little of that freedom peculiar to the epistolary style; the latter generally contain too much. Dr. Beattie himself was partly of this opinion, and probably would have heard with regret, that many of these letters were to be seen by others than those to whom they were addressed. In one of his letters to Robert Arbuthnot, Esq. 'to publish a man's letters,' says he, 'or his conversation, without his consent, is not in my opinion fair: for how many things, in friendly correspondence, does a man throw out,

which he would never wish to hear of again; and what a restraint would it be on all social intercourse, if one were to suppose, that every word one utters would be entered in a register.'

In this compilation of Letters, occasionally illustrated by Sir W. F., and which he has thought proper to entitle the 'Life of Dr. Beattie,' the Dr.'s thoughts and opinions on men and things, together with the state of his health at various times, are given with all the frankness of undisguised friendship. There are also some of a more dignified nature, inscribed to men, who, he well knew, would exhibit them to others; and in these the studied manner of the composition distinguish them from the rest. If the letter to Dr. Porteus is not in this class, it is one which seems to betray not a little art and vanity in the author. His opinion of Johnson as a critick, and his observations on the Tour to the Hebrides, must be taken with some indulgence; for it must not be forgotten, that Dr. Beattie was born in Scotland. The extravagant encomium, however, which he bestows on Mrs. Montagu and her book, reflects but little credit on the author of the Essay on Truth:

'Johnson's harsh and foolish censure on Mrs. Montagu's book does not surprise me; for I have heard him speak contemptuously of it. It is, for all that, one of the best, most original, and most elegant pieces of criticism in our language, or any other. Johnson had many of the talents of a critick; but his want of temper, his violent prejudices, and something, I am afraid, of an envious turn of mind, made him often a very unfair one. Mrs. Montagu was very kind to him, but Mrs. Montagu has more wit than any body; and Johnson could not bear that any body should have wit but himself. Even lord Chesterfield, and, what is more strange, even

Mr. Burke, he would not allow to have wit! He preferred Smollet to Fielding. He would not grant that Armstrong's poem on 'Health,' or the tragedy of 'Douglas,' had any merit. He told me, that he never read Milton through, till he was obliged to do it in order to gather words for his Dictionary. He spoke very peevishly of the masque of 'Comus;' and when I urged, that there was a great deal of poetry in it, yes, said he, but it is like gold under a rock; to which I made no reply, for indeed I did not well understand it.

His observation on Swift, Voltaire, Rousseau, &c. his criticisms on the 'Henriade' and 'Eloise,' and various other works, if not delivered with more justice, are given with more temperance.

We have reviewed this volume, as the Letters of Dr. Beattie; for it contains little beside of much value or importance. As to that part of it, which Sir William may probably call the 'Life,' it is but a meagre performance, possessing all the monotony of Boswell, without Johnson for its subject. As the 'Letters of Dr. Beattie,' it has afforded us all that pleasure, which we expected from the author of the *Minstrel*.

'He sleeps in dust, and all the Muses mourn:' *Minst. ver. lxi.*

There are no less than eight paragraphs, which we have noted, and doubtless many have escaped us, in almost the same number of pages, beginning with 'it is very curious,' and 'it is very singular,' and it is 'not a little curious,' in the illucidations of Sir William; from which we are inclined to give to his part of this performance the 'not a little curious' style. Sir William debated with himself, whether to print his notes at the foot of each page, or, in the manner of 'fashionable publications,' place them at the end of the vol-

ume; he ultimately chose the former mode, as by far the most convenient; and in our opinion his choice was assuredly most wise.

We cannot but admire a part of note 1. §. 1.

'It has been remarked by some, who are fond of fanciful analogies, that the tomb of Virgil, in the neighbourhood of Naples, was adorned with a laurel; the birth-place of Dr. Beattie was partly covered with ivy, as if to denote that it had produced a poet.'

The other notes, though many in number, are of little consequence. In the 3d of page 12, 'From what the Dr. was heard to say, &c. he preferred the reading of Hiensius' edition of Virgil.' Very like he might; but this is merely hear-say evidence.

The typographical part of this volume is, like most of the publications from the press of Brisbane & Brannan, of a clean type, on good paper, and generally correct.

ART. 28.

Twenty six sermons to young people; preached A.D. 1803, 1804: to which are added prayers, also three other sermons. By James Dana, D. D. Sydney Press, New-Haven. 1806.

A NEGATIVE character is universally allowed to be of all others the most difficult to be delineated. Of pre-eminent excellence a man may with the utmost safety express his opinion; for, though he may not give to excellence its due, yet will he always obtain credit for what commendation he bestows: and of indisputable worthlessness his modesty may with equal safety permit him to speak; for whether he break out in direct abuse, or utter but a gentle censure, the one is always too much relished

to excite disgust, and the other is invariably construed into candour. But it is hardly ever safe to express one's sentiments of those, who in common estimation are good, only because they are not bad. The remark applies with equal justice to literary productions. The task of reviewers is at no time so difficult, as when they have to deal with such works; especially when the slightest condemnation is regarded as the height of illnature, and the critick, who has the interest of literature at heart, is looked upon with an eye of jealousy, for assuming what he is entitled to by his office.

The volume of sermons now under review is the production of a man, whose reputation stands high, as a divine; and where he chances to be personally known, it may be perused with interest and profit. But the general character of the sermons is such, that we must first reverence the man, before we can be edified by them. They do not however exactly come under the class of negatives, though the author appears to have thought, as Goldsmith observes many preachers of excellent sense and understanding in England believed, that 'a prudent mediocrity is preferable to a precarious popularity.' But while he seems to have been studious to act up to his creed, his practice lies the wrong side of it. For he is positive in one point, and negative in another. He has many noted deficiencies, as a writer, but, should we judge from his sermons, is nothing remarkable, as a thinker.

His sermons, it is true, are characterized by plain good sense, but nothing more is attempted. It must be regretted, that they are not conducted in a manner better calculated to engage the at-

tention of the young, to whom they are particularly addressed; to inform their heads, and to improve their hearts, by engaging their feelings and amusing their fancy. But this is far, very far from being the case. The style is truly a dry one. It is so sententious, that every thing is forced, and there appears to be no continuity in the ideas. The method too is not sufficiently clear, and by this fault the most important sentiments are degraded, and the finest style, though it may please for a moment, entirely loses its efficacy. To speak plainly of these sermons: if any one has had perseverance to peruse them, we do not say he will regret it, yet we may safely affirm he will have no desire to repeat his labour.

They compose an octavo volume of about five hundred pages, handsomely and correctly printed on wove paper.

ART. 29.

Geography an amusement; or complete set of geographical cards, by which the boundaries, situation, extent, divisions, chief towns, rivers, mountains, lakes, religion, and number of the inhabitants of all the countries, kingdoms, and republics, in the known habitable globe, may be learned by way of amusement in a pleasing and satisfactory manner. By several persons, conversant with maps, and who have made the science their particular study. Burlington, N. J. published by David Allinson, sold by Brisban & Brannan, agents for New-York and the New-England states, Copy-right secured.

TO those, who consider the importance of education in general,

this method of blending amusement with instruction will be highly pleasing. There are but few of the sciences, which young people might not attain a competent knowledge of, in a way, that should render their most pleasing recreations a source of fruitful information. The compilers of these cards have ingeniously substituted the game to the purposes of improvement. They are correctly printed, with a neat type, in various colours, according to the divisions of the *Grand Atlas*.

Like the 'Family Budget,' and other ingenious inventions of this nature, it deserves the patronage of all parents and teachers, who would assist the memories of their pupils and smooth the rugged road of science.

ART. 30.

A sermon, preached in the second congregational church, Newport, Nov. 9th, 1806: the Lord's day succeeding the death of Miss Abigail Potter. By William Patten, A. M. Newport, R. I. printed at the office of the Newport Mercury. 1807.

Two months elapsed between the delivery and publication of this sermon. The author had therefore sufficient opportunity to weigh well its merits, and his auditors sufficient time for their feelings, however they might have been excited at the instant, to subside, and to submit that to the cool decision of judgment, which the momentary enthusiasm might have led them to suppose was a performance of a superiour kind, calculated to edify the religious, and gratify the literary part of the community!

We do not say, that it falls below criticism; for, except in one

instance, there is no departure from common sense. Nor can the author expect a particular notice of his work; for the faults of style are so numerous, that the task of criticism would be endless. We meet with the most commonplace ideas, conveyed in the most commonplace manner. There is nothing, which appears calculated to soothe and comfort an afflicted spirit; but all is cold, methodical, and unfeeling. If any one should take up this sermon with the hopes of meeting with consolation in his sorrow, he will only lose time by a perusal of it; and will derive much more comfort from the letters of the deceased lady, printed with it, which bespeak devotion of heart and propriety of reflection.

The instance of departure from common sense, to which we alluded, is the following. He says,

'2dly. That for those who are pleasant to be taken away is distressing. It is so

If we consider the event in relation to them, or the evil they have experienced. In being brought to death, they suffered much affliction, and are subjects of a great change. Their soul is separated from their body, and their body lies in a state of ruin, incapable of performing or enjoying any good. They are separated from all their connexions and from all prospects of usefulness, and have no more a concern in any thing that is done under the sun. As those are evils and have befallen those, in whom an interest was felt, it must cause great distress for them.'

The text of this sermon is from the 2 Samuel, i. 26. And it is difficult to conceive what could induce its publication, unless it was charity for the printer, who, like the hangman in the days of Queen Bess, must have been 'starving for want of a job.'

ART. 31.

Want of patronage the principal cause of the slow progress of American literature; an oration, delivered before the society of B K, on the anniversary, &c. By Samuel F. Jarvis.

Est Macenata, non desunt, Flaccus, Marpes.
MART.

New-Haven, Steele & Co. pp. 92. 1806.

This subject is so important, that we desire to see it comprehensively treated by a man of greater observation, and with more liveliness of style, than is displayed in this performance; though it is not destitute of merit. The causes of the little estimation, in which learning is held, are the almost universal pursuit of wealth, which makes us adopt the easiest modes of acquiring it; and the want of discipline at our colleges, which, in fact, prevents us from having many learned men to patronise. In a note we find one of the reasons, which unhappily give this subject great interest:

'St. John's College, in Annapolis, was founded in the year 1784, and was enabled, by its charter, to hold an annual income of 9000*l.* currency; 1800*l.* of which it actually possessed. The number of students was about 100, and the instructors were men of abilities and learning. This, together with Washington College, in the county of Kent, which was also liberally endowed, constituted the University of Maryland. After repeated attempts, however, in some of which they met with a partial success, the legislature of that state, during the autumn of 1805, succeeded in depriving both these colleges of their funds, and consequently degraded them into private seminaries.'

Is the state of Maryland striving for a lower degradation, than Rhode-Island, or Vermont, have yet reached?

Violations of the minor rules of grammar, particularly in punctuation, are so common, that many think regulations are arbitrary.— Before relative pronouns a comma is usually of service, and we learn its use from its absence in this oration.

The awkward sound of the obsolete '*mean*' (for cause or instrument) is three times repeated; but Priestley would have taught the orator, that the word '*means*' does not change its termination on account of number. *Vide Murray Syntax.*

His words are not always precise. '*Induction*' is used for conclusion; and the '*reverse of a proposition*,' for the converse. We may appear over nice in marking blemishes in so short a performance; but the immense majority of this kind of productions is unworthy of criticism, and we are solicitous to expose the negligence even of scholars. A more striking fault must not escape:

'Application is the soil, which produces the fruits; Genius is the sun, which, by its invigorating warmth, causes those fruits to ripen, and vegetation to become more rapid.'

O most lame and impotent conclusion!

ART. 32.

Two better than One; a sermon, delivered Dec. 4, A.L. 5805, on the installation of King Hiram's Lodge, in Provincetown. By Brother Jotham Waterman, pastor of the east church of Christ in Barnstable. Boston, printed by Manning & Loring. 1806.

This sermon is a literary curiosity, and we sincerely beg pardon of Brother Jotham, for having so long omitted to review it; more particularly, as in his very copious

notes, he honours the Boston Reviewers exclusively with his notice.

We will first begin with the sermon, the text of which is taken from Ecclesiastes, ch. 4, verse 9, and the first of the 10th.

In this discourse Brother Jotham undertakes to prove, that *two are better than one*, except in the case of two sinners, and there he ingeniously discovers, that 'two are not better than one.' Brother Jotham exhibits more of a *gaiety* than a *style*, if he will allow us the same privilege of punning, which he claims himself.

'May heaven bless every institution that makes us such friends; that obliges us to be kind not only to our own, but to all our fellow men, travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. O ye Samaritan and Jew! Blessed Masons!'

P. 7.

'Refresh yourselves, brethren. It is full time. We have laboured. But let us proceed to labour again. Amen.'

P. 11.

'The man, who lives *ascetic*, cannot be so intelligent, as one, who has been *conversant* with different men and societies.'

P. 12.

True, brother Jotham, and if you had travelled, you would not have used such words as *disconnexion*, *indestructible*, and *unfixing*, as a substantive; nor would you have told us of nature's *receiving its final convulsion*. A *convulsion*, indeed, may be received; and if received in a certain part, is very apt to disorder it. We sincerely hope, that you have met with no accident of the kind.

Brother Jotham, in his notes, has no mercy on us poor Reviewers. He calls us '*full-grown monarchists, a little junto of little men in and around Boston, a set of thorough-faced slanderers*.'

This is very severe; but would he really punish us, he will publish no more, which will certainly deprive us of much amusement, and many a hearty laugh.

CATALOGUE OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, For MAY, 1807.

Sunt bona, sunt quedam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

A Geographical Account of the United States; comprehending a short description of their Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral Productions, Antiquities, and Curiosities. By James Mease, M. D. member of the American Philosophical Society, and corresponding member of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester. Philadelphia, Birch & Small. 1807. 8vo. \$1 50.

A Letter addressed to the people of Maryland, giving an account of the country on the South Shore of Lake Erie; including a brief description of the climate, soil, productions, commerce, trade, and manufactures. By James Tongue, M. D. &c. of Maryland. Washington, Westcott & Co. 25 cts.

Vol. IV. No. 5. Mm

The Picture of New-York, or the traveller's guide through the commercial metropolis of the United States, New-York, Brisban & Brannan.

American Pleader's Assistant, being a collection of approved Declarations, Writs, Returns, &c. By C. Read, Esq. 5 dollars, in sheep. Philadelphia.

No. V. of the Christian Monitor: a religious periodical work. By a Society for promoting christian knowledge, piety, and charity. Containing a serious call to a devout and holy life. 12mo. pp. 192. 30 cts. boards. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

No. XI. of The Philadelphia Medical Museum, conducted by John Redman Coxe, M. D. 8vo. 50 cts. Philadelphia, Thomas Dobson.

The *Juvenile Spelling-Book*, being an easy introduction to the English language. Containing easy and familiar lessons in spelling, with appropriate reading lessons. Calculated to advance the learners by easy gradations, and to teach the orthography of Johnson, and the pronunciation of Walker. New-York, Smith & Forman. pp. 168. thick wove paper. 12mo. 1807.

A new classical selection of Letters; interspersed with some original productions, designed for this work, on the following subjects, viz. business, duty, friendship, love, marriage, &c. with miscellaneous pieces in prose and verse, suited to both sexes. To which is annexed, petitions on various subjects, &c. and the declaration of independence of the United States of America. 12mo. pp. 132. Boston, John M. Dunham. 1807.

A sketch of the Proceedings and Trial of William Hardy, on an indictment for the murder of an infant, Nov. 27, 1806, before the Supreme Judicial Court, holden at Boston, within and for the counties of Suffolk and Nantucket, on the second Tuesday of March, 1807. Reported from the minutes of one of the counsel for the defendant. Boston, Oliver & Munroe. 8vo. pp. 47. 1807.

God's Presence removes the fear of death; a sermon, preached at Barnstable, Feb. 14, 1807, at the interment of the Rev. Oakes Shaw, A.M. pastor of the west church in that place; who departed this life Feb. 11, 1807, in the 71st year of his age, and 47th of his ministry. By Jonathan Burr, A.M. pastor of the congregational church in Sandwich. Published at the request of the committee. Boston, Manning & Loring. 1807. 8vo. pp. 28.

Ministerial fidelity illustrated and urged; a Sermon, delivered at Milton, Feb. 18, 1807, at the ordination of the Rev. Samuel Gile, to the pastoral care of the church and society in that place. Published at the request of the people of Milton. Boston, Belcher & Armstrong. 8vo. pp. 40. 1807.

Memoir of the Boston Athenæum, with the act of incorporation, and organization of the institution. pp. 32. 8vo. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

Facts and Documents concerning Captain Joseph Loring, junr's case; and also the Proceedings of the last Court-Martial; being a vindication of the conduct of the legislature. Boston, 1807. Price 25 cts.

NEW EDITIONS OF WORKS.

Sugden on the Law of Vendors and Purchasers of Estates. Price bound in calf, 6 dollars. Philadelphia, Wm. P. Farrand.

Abridgment of the Laws of Nisi Prius, part I. Price bound in calf, 4 dollars. Philadelphia, Farrand.

Vol. IV. Part I. of The New Cyclopaedia, or Dictionary of Arts and Sciences. By Abraham Rees, D.D., F.R.S., editor of the last edition of Mr. Chambers' Dictionary, with the assistance of eminent professional gentlemen. First American edition, revised, corrected, enlarged, and adapted to this country, by several literary and scientific characters. 4to. Price \$3.50 for the half-volume. After the publication of the 5th vol. the price will be \$4. Philadelphia, S. F. Bradford.

The Complete Navigator, or an easy and familiar guide to the theory and practice of Navigation; with all the requisite tables, &c. illustrated with engravings. By Andrew Mackay, L.L.D., F.R.S., Ed. &c. author of the Theory and Practice of finding the longitude at sea or on land, &c. To which is added, a concise system of calculations for finding the longitude at sea, by the lunar observations. By P. DeLamar. Philadelphia, W. P. Farrand, and Etheridge & Bliss, Boston. T. & G. Palmer, printers. 8vo. pp. 222.

Bosanquet and Puller, vol. 1. New Series. Price 5 dollars, bound in sheep. Philadelphia.

A Chemical Catechism for the use of young people, with copious notes and a vocabulary of chemical terms, &c. By S. Parks, Manufacturing Chemist. Price to subscribers 2 dollars 50 cents. Philadelphia.

A Portraiture of Quakerism; taken from a view of the education and discipline, social manners, civil and political economy, religious principles and character of the Society of Friends. By Thomas Clarkson, A. M. author of several Essays on the Slave Trade. In three volumes. New-York, Samuel Stansbury. 1807. 8vo. \$5.

Poems of Madam Guion. Philadelphia, Farrand. 62½ cents bound.

Scott's Lay of the last Minstrel, in a neat duodecimo volume; price in boards 87 1-2 cents. Also his Ballads, being a new work. Price in the same form \$1. Philadelphia, Hopkins & Co.

Bible 8vo. with Canne's notes; printed on a Brevier letter. Price, bound, 3 dollars. Fine paper 3 dollars 50 cts. Philadelphia.

Oration, delivered at the request of the inhabitants of the town of Boston, to commemorate the evening of the Fifth of March, 1770; when a number of citizens were killed by a party of British troops quartered among them in a time of peace. Second edition. Boston, published by Wm. T. Clap, 88 Fish-street. 1807. Greenough, Stebbins & Hunt, printers. pp. 200. 12mo.

The Trial of the British Soldiers, of the 29th regiment of foot, for the murder of Crispus Attucks, Samuel Gray, Samuel Maverick, James Caldwell, and Patrick Carr, on Monday evening, 5th March, 1770, before the Hon. Benjamin Lynde, John Cushing, Peter Oliver, and Edmund Trowbridge, Esquires, Justices of the superiour court of judicature, court of assize, and general goal delivery, held at Boston, by adjournment, Nov. 27, 1770. Boston, Belcher & Armstrong. 8vo. pp. 120. 1807.

Ballads and Lyrical Pieces. By Walter Scott, Esq. Boston, published and sold by Etheridge & Bliss, No. 12, Cornhill. 1807. 12mo. pp. 180.

Village Sermons: or plain and short discourses on the principal doctrines of the Gospel; intended for the use of families, sunday schools, or companies assembled for religious instruction in country villages. In 3 volumes. By George Burder. *Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.* Third American edition. Boston, E. Lincoln, Water-street. 1807. 12mo.

The Dangers of the Country, by the author of War in Disguise. Philadelphia, Samuel F. Bradford.

Select Lives of Foreigners, eminent for piety; containing biographical sketches of the Archbishop of Cambray, Michael de Molinis, Peter Poirer, Antonia Bourignon, Marquis de Renty, Francis de Sales, and Gregory Lopez; together with directions for a holy life, and the attaining christian perfection, by the Archbishop of Cambray. Philadelphia, R. & T. Kite. 50 cents.

Geographical Compilation for the use of schools, being an accurate description of all the empires, kingdoms, republics, and states in the known world, with an account of their population, government, religion, &c. arranged in a catechetical form, compiled from the best American, English, and French

authors. By Denis Lewis Cottineau, teacher of geography. Norfolk, Vir.

Vicar of Wakefield. A beautiful edition of this valuable book has been published by B. B. Hopkins & Co. of Philadelphia. \$1.

Nautical Almanack for 1807, 1808, 1809; with useful additions, particularly the Moon's declination, calculated every 6th hour, for finding the latitude at sea. Philadelphia.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

John West and O. C. Greenleaf have in press, a continuation of Cumberland's Memoirs, written by himself.

Macanulty & Maxcy, of Salem, have in the press, Abbot on the Law of Shipping, in one volume octavo.

Daniel Johnson, of Portland, is printing a Treatise on Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. By Joseph Chitty, Esq. of the Middle Temple.

T. B. Waite, of Portland, is about putting to press, Blackstone's Commentaries.

An elegant edition of Cowper's Poems, in 3 vols. comprising many of his poems, which have not hitherto been included in his works. Boston, Manning & Loring, E. Lincoln, and J. Cushing.

Graham's Birds of Scotland. Boston, John West. 12mo.

American Ornithology, or the natural History of the Birds of the United States: comprehending those resident within our territory, and those that migrate here from other regions; among which will be found a great number of land and water birds hitherto undescribed. Specifying the class, order, and genus to which each particular species belongs: following, with a few exceptions, the arrangements of Latham. Describing their size, plumage, places of resort, general habits, peculiarities, food, migration, &c. &c. By Alexander Wilson. This work will be printed in a large imperial quarto, on a vellum paper, and issued in numbers, each containing 3 plates, 13 inches by 10, containing at least ten birds, engraved and coloured from original drawings, taken from nature. The numbers to be continued regularly every two months, until completed.—Upwards of 150 of the drawings are already finished, and the plates for the first number nearly ready; which, if sufficient encouragement offer, will be published

early in the ensuing autumn. The extent of the work cannot at present be precisely ascertained: it is conjectured however, that 100 plates may comprehend the whole, forming 2 volumes 4to. The type for the letter-press entirely new, and of singular beauty. Price to subscribers \$2 each Number. Philadelphia, Samuel F. Bradford.

Scott's Commentary on the Old and New Testament. Three vols. of this work are completed. The 4th volume is now in the press. Price to subscribers 11 dollars 50 cents, to non-subscribers 14 dollars bound. Philadelphia.

Shakespeare's Plays, a very neat edition in Royal 12mo. Seven vols. finished. \$2 50 per vol. Philadelphia.

Vol. III. of Massachusetts General Laws. 8vo. Boston, Manning & Loring. Oddy on European commerce to be published in two 8vo vols. price 2 dolls. per volume. Philadelphia.

Debost's Elements of commerce. No price announced yet. Philadelphia.

A Theological Dictionary. By Charles Buck. Containing definitions of all religious terms, &c. Together with an accurate statement of the most remarkable transactions and events, recorded in ecclesiastical history. 2 vols. 8vo. \$2.25 per vol. Philadelphia.

The Wonders of Nature and Art; or a concise account of whatever is most curious and remarkable in the world. By the Rev. Thomas Smith. Revised, corrected, and improved, by James Mease, M. D. in 14 vols, octodecimo, with neat engravings. Price 14 dollars boards, 17 dollars 50 cents bound. Philadelphia.

Thompson, Hart & Co. of New-York, have in the press, Abbe Maury's Treatise on the Principles of Eloquence.

Also, Riley & Alsop, of Middletown, Connecticut, have in the press, and will speedily publish, 'A Picture of the Present State of the Empire of Bonaparte, and of his Federal Nations; or, The Belgian Traveller; being a tour through Holland, France, and Switzerland, during the years 1804 and 1805. In a series of letters from a nobleman, a native of Brabant, to a minister of state, edited by the author of the Revolutionary Plutarch, etc.' This work will consist of one large volume, octavo, containing about 500 pages, price in boards \$2.50.

Douglas' Reports, 2 vols. Cowper's Reports, 2 vols. Harrison's Chancery

Practice, 2 vols. Tidd's Practice in the court of King's Bench, in personal actions, are now in the press of Wm. P. Farrand, Philadelphia.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

E. Sargeant, of New-York, has issued proposals for publishing A New and Complete Dictionary of Arts and Sciences, by G. Gregory, M. D. author of the Economy of Nature, &c. &c. This work will be comprised in twelve parts, of which one twelfth portion will be published monthly, each part containing about 150 quarto pages, at the price of \$2.75. The whole twelve numbers, when completed, will make two volumes, and contain 138 copperplate engravings.

John Watts, of Philadelphia, proposes to publish by subscription, in four volumes 12mo. The Works of Dr. Goldsmith, with a copious account of his life and writings. \$1.50 per vol.

Messrs. John Conrad & Co. of Philadelphia, are about to publish, in 2 vols. crown octavo, Memoirs of Anacreon, translated from the original Greek of Critias of Athens, by Charles Sedley, Esq. including the Odes of Anacreon, from the version of Thomas Moore, Esq.

J. Robinson, of Baltimore, has in the press, a pathetick and sentimental Novel, entitled Dangerous Friendship, or the Letters of Clara d'Albe. Translated from the French, by a Lady of Baltimore. 1 vol. 12mo. price \$1.

Lucius M. Sargeant, of this town, proposes publishing by subscription The Works of Tibullus. This work will comprise between eighty and an hundred pages 12mo., the text formed from the best opinions of former editors accompanied with the various readings, and the life of Tibullus, together with a few necessary notes. Price \$1 in handsome boards.

Proposals have been issued in Philadelphia for publishing a new work by Dr. B. S. Barton, Professor of Materia Medica, Natural History, and Botany, in the University of Pennsylvania, called, the 'Elements of Zoology, or Outlines of the Natural History of Animals.' I. It is proposed to publish this work on a plan, in most respects, different from that of any other writer on the same subjects. It will embrace, 1. An outline of what is commonly called the Philosophy of Zoology; that is, the

anatomy and physiology of Animals; their manners and instincts, their uses, &c. ; together with, 2. Systematick arrangements of Animals, descriptions of the principal genera, and many of the species : also, 3. An explanation of the greater number of the terms that are employed by writers on all the branches of Zoology. II. As the work will be the production of a native American, so it will be the studious aim of the author to adapt it, in an especial manner, to the lovers and cultivators of Natural History in the United States. Accordingly, independent of the philosophical departments, these elements will contain the descriptions of a great number of American quadrupeds, birds, serpents, fishes, insects, vermes, &c., not a few of which have never yet been (publickly) described by any naturalist. **III.** The work being intended as a companion for the author's 'Elements of Botany,' published in 1805, it will, like that work, be printed in an octavo form, of the royal size ; on a good paper, and new type. **IV.** For the convenience of the purchasers the work will be printed in two volumes, each of which is to contain, at least, 256 pages, exclusive of an index, and contain not less than ten illustrative plates. Subscription price in boards, 5 dollars. The field for the zoologist is so extensive in this country, and the subject heretofore so little attended to, that we may reasonably expect from the talents of Dr. Barton, combined with the peculiar advantages he possesses, a work highly interesting and valuable on the subjects of which he treats.

Captain Lewis has announced his intention of publishing, in 3 vols. 8vo. Lewis and Clarke's Tour to the Pacifick ocean, through the interior of North America, during the years 1804, 1805, 1806. Performed by order of the government of the United States. Also a map of North America, from longitude 9 degrees west of the Pacifick ocean, and between 56 and 52 degrees north latitude.—Subscriptions for these works are received by the principal booksellers throughout the union.

Pious Reflections for every day in the month, in a neat pocket volume. By the archbishop of Cambray. Philadelphia, B. & T. Kite.

Isaiah Thomas, of Worcester, announces the following in the press, and will be ready for publication in a few months :

Denman's Midwifery, 2 vols. 8vo. ; the whole will be comprised in one large octavo volume.

Cullen's Practice of Physick, improved by the celebrated Dr. Reid, of Edinburgh ; 2 volumes, to be comprised in one octavo.

Zollikofer's Exercises of Piety, a very valuable family book, being the second edition.

Schrevelii's Greek Lexicon ; one large vol. 8vo. ; it will be executed on a very nice paper, and a new type.

A new Spelling Dictionary of the English language, in which the syllables are distinctly pointed out, and the parts of speech properly distinguished. To which are added, a concise historical account of the language, and a complete list of all the principal cities, towns, rivers, and mountains, in America. The whole intended for the instruction of youth of both sexes ; to be comprised in a neat, small pocket vol.

Tooke's Pantheon, epitomised, a very valuable little work, which will be decorated with 20 or 30 elegant type-metal engravings.

The Life of Washington, by Rev. Aaron Bancroft, of Worcester, in one octavo volume, is completed, and about being put in the press.

Proposals are issued by Hopkins & Co. of New-York, for publishing by subscription, Lectures on Church History, by George Campbell, D.D. To which is annexed his Essay on Miracles.

An improved Gardener's Callendar : adapted for the southern states of America, but especially for the Carolinas and Georgia, being an extensive improvement of Squibbs' method. Charleston, S. C. 12mo. \$1.

Thomas J. Rogers, of Easton, Penn, proposes publishing, a valuable and interesting work, entitled, The True Religion Delineated, or Experimental Religion ; as distinguished from formality on the one hand, and enthusiasm on the other. Set in scriptural and rational light.—In two Discourses,—In which some of the principal errors, both of the Armenians and Antinomians, are confuted ; the foundation and superstructure of their different schemes demolished, and the truth, as it is in Jesus, explained and proved. The whole adapted to the weakest capacities, and designed for the establishment, comfort, and quickening of the people of God. By Joseph Bellamy, D.D. late of Bethlehem, Conn. With a Preface, by

the Rev. Mr. Edwards. 8vo. pp. 400. Price \$1.50.

W. W. Woodward, of Philadelphia, offers proposals for publishing the Rev. Dr. Gill's Exposition on the whole of the Old and New Testaments, critical, doctrinal, and practical; in which are recorded, the Original of Mankind, of the several nations of the world, and of the Jewish nation in particular, &c. &c.

To be printed in 10 vols. at \$6 per vol. neat sheep binding; \$7 in calf; and \$5.25 in boards, to subscribers.

Proposals are offered in this town for publishing by subscription, A Portrait of the Hon. James Sullivan, from an original painting by W. M. S. Doyle, to be engraved by Gilbert Fox. Price \$1 to subscribers.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

AMERICA.

Provision for a General Survey of the Coasts of the United States.

A FEW years ago a hydrographical survey was made, at the expense of government, of Long-Island Sound.— Since that time, Captains Fosdick and Cahoon, two of the persons employed, have published their chart. Encouraged by the success of this first attempt, a survey was ordered to be made, during the session of Congress, in 1805-6, of that part of the coast of North-Carolina, which lies between Cape-Hatteras and Cape-Fear. Captains Jonathan Price and Thomas Coles performed that service during the last summer. They have made a valuable report of their observations, and accompanied it with a new chart of the coast. In this they consider that Cape-Hatteras shoals are commonly delineated on the maps too far to the west, thereby endangering navigation, by taking up vessels sailing with a supposed sufficiency of sea-room. They have found the bottom of the ocean in those parts to be a loose sand, moveable by the waves, and often with gravel, ooze and shells, and changing its position. There is no probability that a light-house can be constructed on the shoals, nor that buoys, or floating beacons, can be made to withstand the violence of the waves. They have sounded the coast of Capes Hatteras, Look-out, and Fear, quite to the margin of the Gulf-stream. Through the Fryng-Pan shoals, off Cape-Fear, they have discovered an opening not hitherto known, ten miles from the land, which may be of great importance to the coasting navigation. For now vessels bound to and from Wilmington may pass through this open-

ing in the shoals in four, five, and seven fathom water, instead of beating round the southern extremity of the flats. The shoals of Cape-Look-Out are the most dangerous to mariners.

Cape-Hatteras light-house is situated in 75° S 30' W. and in latitude 35° 14' 30" N. The shoals extend twelve miles in a south-east direction; and twelve miles farther, in the same direction, is the gulf-stream, with sixty fathom water at its edge. Thus it is twenty-four miles from the Cape to the stream. Cape-Look-Out is in latitude 34° 34' N. and long. 76° 37' W. The shoals extend from the Cape 15 miles in a S. S. E. direction, and the broken ground as far as lat. 34° 20' N. Thence to the gulf-stream the soundings are gradual to 95 fathoms. At Cape-Fear light-house the longitude is 78° 12' W. and lat. 33° 53' N. The extreme southern part of the Fryng-Pan shoals is in lat. 33° 35'. In this parallel the shoal runs 12 miles due E. and W.

The information furnished by this second undertaking has been followed by an ample provision for a maritime survey of the whole coast of the United States. In the beginning of Feb. 1807, an act of Congress was passed, appropriating fifty thousand dollars to enable the President of the United States to cause a survey to be taken of the coasts, and of all the islands, shoals, roads, and places of anchorage, within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the United States; as also the courses and distances between the principal capes and head-lands, and all such other matters as ought to be contained in an accurate chart. This survey is intended to embrace St. George's Bank, and all other banks, shoals, soundings, currents, and memorable things, quite to the gulf-stream.

GREAT-BRITAIN.

Sir John Carr is preparing for the press an account of his excursions into Holland & up the Rhine, as far as Mentz.

Walter Scott, Esq. is preparing for publication a new poetical work, to be entitled, *Six Epistles from Ettric Forest*.

Mr. Burnet has a new work in considerable forwardness, entitled 'Specimens of English Prose-Writers, from the earliest times to the close of the seventeenth century, with sketches biographical and literary, including an account of books, as well as of their authors, with occasional criticisms, &c.' This work, it is apprehended, will possess some singular and important recommendations. The primary object of the series of specimens, is to illustrate the progress of the English language, from its rise to its complete establishment. The principles by which the author has been generally influenced in his choice of extracts, have been, to select passages curious or remarkable, as relating directly to the subject of language; as possessing intrinsic value as examples of style; as characteristic of the author; or as distinctive of the manners and sentiments of the age. In writers of continuous reasoning, which abound from the reign of Elizabeth, his aim has commonly been to present as clear a view of the general principles of the author, as his limits would admit, and as could be done *in the words of the author himself*; which has been attempted not simply by the selection of those parts where they are distinctly stated, but by frequently conjoining passages distant in place, though connected in sense. Moreover, the work will comprise an account of, and extracts from, most of the ancient chroniclers and historians, who have written in English. Hence it will contribute, together with the interspersed remarks and the occasional sketches of literary history, to elucidate also the progress of manners, of opinion, and of general refinement. There are many obvious advantages in thus exhibiting a view of writers and of their works, in chronological order. It assists the memory, by favouring the most natural and appropriate associations; the celebrated contemporaries are represented, as they ought, in groups; and if the questions arise, Who were the literary worthies that adorned any given reign? and what were their respective claims to distinction? we have only to turn to

that reign, in the work which is here announced, to be speedily satisfied.— Even the incidental mention, in the biographies, of facts in civil history, will tend to awaken the curiosity to become better acquainted with the chain of transactions of which they are links; and thus the reader will be insensibly led to the civil, as well as the literary history of the period. Upon the whole, it is hoped, that the work will prove *entertaining* to many and very different classes of readers, from the variety of its materials; that it will constitute an *useful* manual to the student of our early literature; and that it will be found *convenient*, even by persons already informed in this department, as a book of occasional reference.

Mr. Dyer is proceeding with the 'Inquiry into the state of the Publick Libraries of this Kingdom,' which was announced by him some time ago. He has had free access to various publick libraries in different parts of England, and has visited every one of those in Scotland; and he proposes, in proportion to his encouragement and opportunities to pursue his researches, till he has completed his design. The Inquiry will make three volumes, and is intended to comprehend a short account of every publick library of a particular description in the island, together with such biographical sketches and literary observations as will be naturally connected with such a work.

At the opening of the present month will be published a weekly literary and scientific Journal, called, 'THE DIRECTOR;' the principal object of which, will be the diffusion of such intelligence as may serve to shew the state of literature, science, and the fine arts in the metropolis and the other parts of the empire. Connected with this important object, it will supply a regular account of the Lectures at the Royal Institution, and of the proceedings, not only of that, and the London and British Institutions, but (as far as may be obtained) of the Royal Society, Royal Academy, the British Museum, & of the Societies of Antiquaries and Arts.

The imperial printing establishment at Paris affords constant employment for 400 workmen.

Mr. John Pinkerton is preparing for the press a New Modern Atlas. It is proposed that this Atlas shall consist of at least an equal number of maps with those of the new edition of Mr. Pinker-

ton's Geography, but of the size called Atlas, so as to correspond with the celebrated works of D'Anville. These maps will be delineated with all the superiour advantages afforded by the late improvements in geographical precision, and engraved with the utmost beauty that the state of the arts can admit, so as to be a national and perpetual monument, worthy of the first commercial country in the world, and from whose exertion and enterprise have arisen the most recent and important discoveries. Each map will be drawn under Mr. Pinkerton's own eye, revised with the utmost care; and will form, like the works of D'Anville, a complete record of the state of science at the time of publication. Table lands, chains of mountains, and other features which belong to the natural geography of each country, will be indicated in a new manner, and with an exactness not to be expected from geographers who are unacquainted with that branch of the science, which is, however, so essential, that without it no country can be truly represented, nor works on natural and civil history perfectly understood. In the other parts, which illustrate civil history, equal care shall be exerted, not to insert obscure hovels and villages, while places remarkable in historical record are totally omitted. Instead of careless positions, arising from the blind imitation of antiquated maps, the greatest attention shall be bestowed, that every position be conformable to the latest astronomical observations, and, in default of these, to the result of the best itineraries, and other authentick documents. The expence and labour of drawing and engraving such an Atlas, must necessarily be very great, and only capable of being repaid by a country in the first state of opulence. But while the merely ornamental arts have met with a most liberal encouragement, in the publication of literary monuments of great expense, it may be hoped, that the work, uniting great and lasting utility with beauty and magnificence, will not be neglected by a discerning publick. It is supposed that the whole expence of this Atlas, executed in a more capital style than has ever been before attempted, may be about 20 or 25 guineas; and it is proposed that it shall be published in numbers, each containing two or three maps.

A new edition of Warton's valuable History of English Poetry is prepar-

ing for the press; it will be continued to the time of Pope by an editor of celebrity.

EDITORS' NOTES.

IN this number we present our readers the memoir of the Boston Athenæum. Our most confident hopes and warmest wishes have been gratified by the ample patronage, which has been bestowed on the institution, by the munificent merchants and liberal gentlemen of all professions in this town. Subscriptions for more than one hundred and thirty shares, at £300 a share, have already been obtained; so that the sum already subscribed amounts to more than 39,000 dollars. Several valuable donations in books have been made to the institution within the last fortnight, and the list of annual subscribers has been much increased.

On this event, so honourable and useful to our city and to our country, we congratulate the publick. The bands of society are multiplied by literary and social institutions. Real patriotism can exist in the hearts of those only, who have been accustomed to venerate and cherish with affection those establishments which are the ornament and support of civil society. It has been justly observed by Edmund Burke, *that if we would love our country, we must render our country lovely.*

All the newspapers and periodical publications we receive in interchange for the Anthology are deposited in the Athenæum. We cannot therefore urge too powerfully on the printers of the newspapers and literary journals in the different parts of our country to attend particularly to the early and regular transmission of their publications. We shall also be very grateful to booksellers and printers in any part of the United States, who will have the goodness to send to us any books or pamphlets immediately on their publication. Catalogues of publick libraries, of museums, and botanical institutions, literary projects, &c. &c. are also most respectfully solicited.

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,

FOR

JUNE, 1807.

From the Port Folio.

MR. OLDSCHOOL,

TRAVELLING through the U. States of America, a *foreigner*, but not a stranger, and solicitous to make accurate remarks, that he might draw correct inferences, the delineator of the Picture of Boston confides in the *accuracy of his outline*, and that the individual features he has portrayed *closely resemble the original*; however the tints may fail in felicity of colouring, or be considered deficient in the distribution of light and shadow. The painter has, at least, *seen and studied* what he describes, and, *at the present moment*, having in his design nothing beyond a sketch, true in character, though possibly deficient in finishing, as such it is presented for engraving to The Port Folio: happy in being given to the American world through the medium of a publication which would confer honour, and obtain patronage, in any country where letters are appreciated and native talents estimated, beyond the adventitious acquirement of wealth, and the assumed aristocracy of its vulgar pretensions.

CARADOC.

PICTURE OF BOSTON.

A FRAGMENT.

BOSTON, thou mart admir'd whose prosperous care
To *Mamma* breathes the vow, and pours the prayer,
Whose throng'd Exchange, to *christian jews* a prey,
Scares the kind hope of liberal trade away;
GOLD is thy GOD, on that thy soul relies,
Beneath whose worship every virtue dies,
Hence the hush'd banker, scorning to relent,
Till his stor'd coffer teem with cent per cent.

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Nn

Sees the cram'd usurer, doubling every claim,
Lead to the struggling wretch his CAUTIONED name.

Yet fair thy hills, in summer pride are seen,
The bright stream curling mid their slopes of green,
While the near ocean, broadening on the view,
Gives all *Pheacia* sought or *Carthage* knew.
Even MAN, whose mind the stamp of wisdom bears,
And in the image of a God appears,
Those "sons of soul," by heaven to earth resign'd,
Friends! patrons! and instructors of mankind!
Even these are seen mid severing clouds to shine,
And all the splendour of their fame is thine.

Beneath thy temple's holiest veil retired,
See the blest preacher, by his God inspir'd,
Warm from his lips the words of life descend,
Yet these the coldness of neglect attend.
Though *Kirkland* all the lore of truth disclose,
And *Lowell's* heavenly voice instructive flows,
M'Kean, of feeling heart, with soul refin'd,
Rich in the glowing energies of mind,
Powerful, yet mild as the transcendent light,
That radiant rules those speaking orbs of sight;
With him so loved—the wanderer from thy clime—
Ere his green years had bloom'd in manhood's prime.

In judgment ripen'd, and in thought
 mature,
 His doctrine, like his sacred morals
 pure,
 Though *Gardiner*, SON OF GENIUS,
 round the shrine
 Of pastoral care the Muse's chaplet
 twine,
 Say, can these bid the narrowing heart
 unfold,
 Or show its hope a heaven more prized
 than gold ?

Within thy courts while Law and Jus-
 tice reign,
 While Learning lends to Truth the im-
 pressive strain.
 Seen are thy tradeful sons ; but Ge-
 nius pines,
 For him no favouring ray of fortune
 shines,
 Though as her *Manesfield*, Britain's no-
 blest claim,
 Thy *Parsons* blends his glories with
 thy name,
 In all the patriot pride to *Sparta* known,
 Lives to thy interest, mindless of his
 own,
 Though classic *Gore* the honour'd
 robe adorn,
 And *Otis* rises, like a vernal morn,
 Clear, brilliant, sweet, in Nature's
 gifts array'd,
 Where not a cloud obtrudes its devious
 shade,
 Though *Dexter*, with the strength of
 reason fraught,
 On the charm'd *forum* pour the depth
 of thought,
 While still, with speaking gaze, or
 starting tear,
 Admiring crowds the *peerless pleader*
 hear,
 A Nation's honour, and a Party's
 shame*
 Breathes in his voice, and blushes in
 his fame.
 So *GALILEO*, mid a world of night,
 Rose, like a sun, in mental treasures
 bright,
 Rich in the rays that powerful genius
 spread
 Where favour'd Florence lifts her
 blooming head ;

* *A Party's shame*, must be under-
 stood as bearing particular allusion to
 the result of a late trial, which party
 malice, first rendering political, failed
 not to pursue with the rancour of per-
 sonal abuse and injustice.

Deaf as her hills, and ruder far than
 they,
 Triumphant Folly bore the prize away,
 Falsehood and Envy, to her mandate
 true,
 With stormy breath each ripening
 hope pursue,
 Cloud following cloud, yet Truth eter-
 nal shone,
 Till Time and Glory made his fame
 their own.

Since these are thine, IMPERIAL BOS-
 TON, say,
 Does rich reward their mental wealth
 repay ?
 Or *phantom* honours, and *reluctant*
 praise
 Light without warmth the desert of
 their days ?
 Or *SLANDER*, Envy's child, with busi-
 ed care.
 From the fine front its graceful laurel
 tear,
 Striving, unblest'd, to wreath the ser-
 pent there ?
 Shame on the heartless hope, in vain
 appear
 The smiles, that brighten round thy
 varied year,
 Though kind the culture of thy ample
 plain,
 And rich the isles, that gem its circling
 main,
 Though where thy streets in pillar'd
 pomp are seen,
 The proud hill mingling with its rural
 green,
 Wins every breeze that floats on ze-
 phyr-wing,
 Health and her lightly-warbled song to
 bring,
 Though the lov'd *Mall* each touching
 feature show,
 And warm with life in moving land-
 scapes glow,
 These but the drapery of a form arise,
 Where the mind palsies, and the feel-
 ing dies.
 Few, and unpriz'd thy *sons of science*
 rove,
 No eye to gladden, and no heart to
 move,
 While every Muse, with heaven-instruc-
 ted strain,
 Would wake the harp or woo the lute
 in vain ;
 GENIUS, THOU GIFT OF GOD, to thee
 belong
 The base man's insult, and the oppres-
 sor's wrong !

Nor thine the boast, that prosperous
trade bestows,
Ne'er to thy hope the golden Indus
flows,

But thine that *poverty* to heaven allied,*
That meek Disdain, which Virtue
lends to Pride,

Though sunk to earth, thy soft implor-
ing eye

See many a *Levite* pass unheeded by,
Conscious of innate worth, not *Mockery's*
wile,

* *Blessed be ye poor, for yours is the
kingdom of heaven, says the MOST SU-
BLIME OF ALL AUTHORITIES.*

Nor chill *Neglect*, nor *Wealth's* contemp-
tuous smile,
Nor *Pity's* vaunting sneer, nor *Envy's*
frown

Are known to BEAR THE UNBLIGHT-
ED SPIRIT DOWN.

Pensive thy solitary sufferers seem,
The sport of Fortune, yet of Fame the
theme.

Vain were to them the venal world's
regard

WITH HEAVEN THEIR HOPE, AND
NATURE THEIR REWARD.

CARADOC.

OBSERVATIONS.

WE insert from the *Port Folio* the preceding lines and prefatory remarks, not, as the judicious will readily see, from any claim of merit in either their object or execution; still less from a wish to increase the mortification of those, our beloved and respected townsmen, who have had the misfortune to be made the subjects of this Caradoc's praise. But our sense of justice will not permit such gross and groundless aspersions to circulate concerning a city, deserving very different treatment from truth and genius. It neither excites our pity nor restrains our indignation, that these miserable callulnics are crutched upon rhyme, and hobble about, in the measures of poetry, stilted, but not elevated. Caradoc is not the first, who has mistaken *lying* for a liberty of Parnassus, and used the free air of that region, as though he were thereby released from all restraints of decency and of morals. The '*quidlibet audendi*,' however, which the Roman poet claims for his tribe, has, according to his own concession, many limitations; and among these, not the least, is a scrupulous observance of truth and of nature—

Veras hinc ducere voces.

Nor does he make any exception in favour of lines such as Caradoc's, though he expressly speaks of this species of poetry

—Versus inopes rerum, nugæque canora.

In this '*Picture of Boston*,' as it is called, its inhabitants are represented in some uncommon degree the slaves of avarice, and its '*trade-ful sons*' '*without other hope than gold*,' are said to suffer genius and worth to pine in poverty and neglect; having neither the sense to prize, nor the spirit to contribute, to the encouragement of individual merit, or of general science.

Had this '*fictura*' possessed merely the merit of *caricature*, it should not by us have been made the subject of reprimand. It should even have received our welcome. We require not from the satirist any nice discrimination in apportioning chastisement to guilt. We only demand, that the vice, or the foible, exist in the individual, he selects; and *that also in a degree somewhat peculiar*. In the particular, on account of which he is brought under the lash, he must be really deficient, something be-

low, not that scale of ideal perfection, we can imagine, but the ordinary standard of that class of beings, to which he belongs. If the asperities of Caradoc had been justified by any such general considerations, we should not have censured lines, which truth would never have permitted us to praise. In the belief that his design was honourable, we should not have disturbed its repose in that page, which was at once its cradle and its grave, nor have exposed a second time to any mortal eye his flaccid muscle; poorly propped as it is by ill concealed fragments, pilfered from real poets.

It is our duty, however, not to permit the metropolis of New-England to be thus wantonly calumniated. We should deem ourselves guilty of a failure in moral obligation, if we allowed to pass without comment, assertions, of the falsity of which we have almost daily evidence. We pretend not that the practice of our fellow citizens has reached that extreme limit of liberality, beyond which neither religion nor morals urge men to advance. Imperfect in its best estate is all human virtue. Rarely does wealth discharge the debt it owes to benevolence, without much mean defalcation. Here, as well as elsewhere, the ignoble passions throw many obstacles in the way of voluntary bounty. The stream of individual munificence is not always in proportion to the waters in the fountain. Some men, like lakes in deep valleys, receive all the bonnies of heaven, and the rich tribute of every neighbouring hill, yet 'cream and mantle,' in selfish fullness, stagnate with unproductive accumulation; yield nothing to the general prosperity; and circulate the blessings they possess, not enough to pro-

mote healthful action in their own system; others, like springs on some mountain's top, swell in perpetual overflowings, and gladden with their timely dispensations, all the sphere beneath their influence. Diversities such as these, are inseparable from every association of human beings. From general infirmities we neither pretend to be exempt, nor do we deem their existence the just occasion of satire or of censure. The weakness of our common nature is the proper subject for ingenuous lamentation; and ought to be the frequent topic of friendly admonition, and of fraternal warning. But the harsh discipline of the satirist is due, solely, to flagrant offenders; to such as sink below the general standard; to such as, more than ordinarily, abuse their means, or neglect their opportunities. It is in this view that we pronounce the work, we have above transcribed, to be both false and malignant. Because the most ordinary inquiry would have led its author to a very different result. It would have taught him, that, in the liberal appropriation of individual wealth to purposes of general utility, whether the object be charity, or piety, or literature, in proportion to its wealth and its numbers, the town of Boston need not shrink from a comparison with any proud, pretending city, in this, or in any other country. This is not the language of ostentation. We utter it reluctantly. The virtues, of which we speak, take no delight in blazoning. It is the charm of their character to be

Not obvious, not obtrusive, but retired.

Something, however, is due to justice, and to that sense of reputation, which we should cherish, scarcely less in a collection, than in an individual capacity. The

common rules of delicacy must be made to yield to higher obligations, when a whole city is holden up to contempt, as destitute of virtues and dispositions, in which, to say the least, it is as abundant as in any similar associations. When we assert this, we do not mean to allege an equality with others in all those great and general establishments, which belong rather to state institution, than to local patronage. We are neither blind to the deficiencies of this part of our country, nor do we wish to extenuate them. Nor shall we pretend that other places may not excel this, in the splendid fruits of some accidental benevolence. The virtue, or the vanity of an individual, may surpass the common standard of his countrymen, and lay the foundation of institutions beyond the reach or the thought of their ordinary benevolence. Such establishments are the evidences of the good fortune of a city, not the criterion of the liberality of its inhabitants. This is evidenced by the facility and the amount with which its citizens contribute voluntarily, towards any object of a general nature, aloof from the considerations of ostentation and of interest. In such spontaneous benefactions, however far our citizens may fall short of their duty, they are surpassed by the examples of those of few cities, if of any, in proportion to their ability.

There is something singularly left-handed in the insolent malignity of this Caradoc. According to him, *the christian Jews on our exchange*, *our tradeful sons* are, by their temper and conduct, the sources of all the neglect, which genius and science are said, here, to experience. Now, strange as it may appear, after the utterance of such a gross calumny, the class of

men, here alluded to, our merchants, are the distinguished patrons of both, and in a degree too, that entitles them to any thing else rather than to reproach. In all projects of a publick nature they yield to no class of citizens in zeal, and invariably exceed all in the amount of their pecuniary patronage. Voluntary contributions, for purposes of general utility, are made from the mass of the citizens of this metropolis, with a facility, a frequency, and to an extent we fear in few places equalled, and we believe in none exceeded.

With these facts, long familiar to our honest pride and grateful reflection, is it wonderful that we should feel indignant at such groundless aspersions, and should repel them with disdain, especially when they are levelled not only at our city, but also at that particular class, which deserves to be the theme of panegyrick, rather than the object of obloquy? We could support these general allegations by a recapitulation of sums and of occasions in all aspects honourable to the benevolent spirit of our city. We shall refer, however, at present, only to two instances, which we select not because they reflect more honour upon our citizens, than among others within our recollection; but because each has the patronage of literature for its object, and because both place in a strong light the wantonness of this Caradoc's abuse. It is now about eighteen months since a professorship of natural history was established at the university in this neighbourhood, by the voluntary subscription of liberal individuals, and the amount thus raised exceeded *thirty thousand dollars*. **FOUR FIFTHS, AS WELL OF THE AMOUNT SUBSCRIBED, AS OF THE NUMBER OF**

SUBSCRIBERS, WERE MERCHANTS OF THIS METROPOLIS. Again, within the year past, nearly *fifty thousand dollars* have been raised, also by voluntary subscription, for a literary establishment called *The Athenæum*. Again the patronage of our merchants yielded an equal proportion of support to this, as to the former institution. We repeat, that these, thus cited by us, are not solitary instances of such honourable dispositions. We do not believe that the evidences of the benevolence of our citizens, exhibited within the last two years, exceed, in amount, those of many similar preceding periods. Solicitors of contributions for purposes of piety, or charity, or learning, has set almost annually in a current to this metropolis, with a swiftness indicative, certainly, not of a disbelief in the liberality of its inhabitants. If in relation to such voluntary contributions, any blame attaches to our city, we are proud to say, it is not so much the want of a disposition to yield bounty, as of discrimination as to the objects of it. We have indeed sometimes thought, that our citizens, especially those most liberally disposed, have listened with too much facility to sturdy applicants. To have come a great way to solicit benevolence, has been, perhaps, a little too readily thought to give a title to it. Unfortunately for this metropolis, the charity of its citizens has *neither begun at home, nor ended there*. The sums, which, within fifteen years past, have flowed from this city in charities, to distant parts of the union, and of the world, would, if expended in domestick endowments, have raised here many of those noble and useful establishments which do so much honour to other cities, in which there has prevailed a more con-

centrated liberality. We mean not to condemn the principle, which led to these distant benefactions; but we may be permitted to rejoice, when we see benevolence beginning at length to bless those of its own household. After the fountain of charity has played so long and so lavishly on places *afar off*, watering the wildernesses of the east, of the west, and of the south, at one time throwing no mean stream beyond the Alleghanies, at another refreshing the very top of the Alps, we surely may be indulged in congratulating our fellow citizens, when with a more common, and not less honourable benevolence, it begins to enrich its own vicinity; and in expressing the hope, that by *bounty to ourselves*, we may soon gain that character for liberality, which a less selfish and less obtrusive charity never did and never will command from mankind.

As to that other intimation given by Caradoc, that the individuals he has named, are '*chilled with neglect*,' and meet '*wealth's contemptuous smile*,' we know not from what bedlam this maniack has escaped. Instead of ruminating and grazing at large on Parnassus, without shackle or clog on any of his feet, he claims from his friends the stern discipline, and the strait waistcoat of the cells.

Danda est ellebori multo pars maxima—
Nessio an Anticiram ratio illi destinat omnem.

The truth is, that those '*neglected*' and '*condemned*' gentlemen, are among the most respected and cherished of our citizens. Those of the bar, whom he has named, rank among the wealthy, and some of them among the most opulent; and they have all received from their fellow citizens whatever hon-

ours, in the present state of society, are within their power to bestow. If genius and merit excite the venom of envious and malignant spirits, is this fault peculiar to this city?

Is not such the common fate of distinguished men in all ages and in all places?

As to those of our clergy, whom this writer has drawn into notice, nothing can be more unfortunate than his selection of instances of 'worth neglected,' and of 'genius insulted.' He could have scarcely named more distinguished objects of the love and esteem of their fellow citizens, or have designated any who are in the habit of receiving more frequent, or more liberal evidences of their affection and reverence. They are men honoured in public life for their talents, and in private life for their virtues. The guides of our wisest, the com-

panions of our happiest hours—Venerated both because they are leaders, and because they are examples.

We have thought it becoming in us to state these truths, concerning a city thus openly and wantonly assailed. To pass by a calumny so publicly uttered, without some comment, seemed to us like giving it, in some degree, a silent sanction.

To have noticed it, in the style of common criticism, would have done justice neither to the author, nor to the subject of the verse.

In all ages and nations, writers like Caradoc have the language of scorn and detestation for an inheritance.

..... Solutos
Qui captat risus hominum famamque
dicacis
Fingere qui non visa potest—
... hic niger est, hunc tu, Romane, ca-
veto.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE to his friends in this country.

LETTER SIXTH.

Florence, February 15, 1805.

MY DEAR SISTER,

THE Roman poets had more colour for placing the palaces of the Gods of the Winds in caverns, than I once believed. Virgil's description of the cave of Æolus is one of the most whimsical efforts of human fancy, which I ever read. He represents the deity as confining the winds in bags, and letting them out, as occasion might require, as a retailer would a bushel of peas. I find, however, that he had some ground to believe, that the winds had their origin in the bowels of the earth. On the road from

Rome to this city, between Nami and Terni, you pass the little town of Cesis or Cesinum, an ancient village, romantically situated at the foot of a rocky mountain, which appears to threaten it with destruction. From the center of this mountain, thro' certain apertures or caverns, issues constantly a pure, cold, refreshing wind, so extremely grateful in this warm climate, that the inhabitants convey it in pipes like water, to their cellars, to moderate the heat of their climate, and to preserve their wines and fruit.

A few miles on this side of Folligno you pass the little town of

Assisi, famous throughout Italy, France, and Spain, as the birth-place of St. Francis. If it had been your good fortune to have been born in a Roman Catholic (or, as they say, a *Christian*) country, I should have no occasion to explain to you what St. Francis has done to render his birth-place an object of so much interest; but as you have not had that happiness, I must inform you, that St. Francis was the founder of that extensive, rigid, self-mortifying order, called Franciscans. If I should recur to Catholic legends for the works of this extraordinary saint, who was canonised before his death, I should recount a succession of miracles far greater and more astonishing, than any which our Saviour or his apostles thought proper to perform. I should tell you of his having preached to swallows, and of his having made a woman out of snow, and a thousand other tales, the recital of which would be only a repetition of the many proofs of human folly and credulity. But what he did in fact perform, worthy of astonishment, was to institute, at the age of twenty-five years, an order of monks the most rigid; and by his talents, zeal, and real or affected piety, to render it so popular, as that, in ten years after its foundation, it deputed five thousand brethren to a general convention at Rome, besides the vast numbers who remained in the convents. This order was instituted in 1209, and has subsisted in full force from that period to the present, except in France. There are supposed to be at the present time forty or fifty thousand monks of this order.

These men lead a life of great severity and mortification even at the present day. I do not believe the tales, which are generally pro-

pagated of their extreme licentiousness. That there are bad men in their society, as in all others, cannot be doubted; but as the smallest deviations from propriety, are noticed in men who lay claim to a character of extraordinary sanctity; as we feel shocked to see men, who have separated themselves from the rest of mankind, for the performance of sacred functions, acting only with what we should call *levity* in other men, it is very extraordinary that these religious orders should have retained so large a share of public respect. Generally speaking, the Capuchins, Franciscans, and other religious orders, are still looked up to with respect, and, in some instances, veneration. They certainly have fewer temptations than other men; they are secluded, generally, from objects which allure the senses, and inflame the passions. They are occupied more than one half of their time, by night as well as by day, in acts of devotion; and I will not think so ill of human nature, as to believe, that such habits have no tendency to purify the heart, and amend the morals, even if they are not performed with the most correct views and impressions.

In the severest weather these monks go *bare-headed*; they have no stockings, and only a sandal on the bottom of the foot. Their dress consists of a coarse woollen robe, without any linen under it to defend the skin. In their convents they admit but little light—Their windows never look towards the busy world—Their cells are small, and their chief ornaments are a crucifix and a human skull. Go in at any hour, which you call do freely and without notice, and you will usually find them at their devotions. They abstain from all

animal food. Towards their fellow men they are meek and humble. They assume no airs from the respectability and wealth of their order. They still preserve the ancient employment of mendicity, and the habit of begging alms has no tendency to inflame human pride. It will occur to you, no doubt, to ask, what motives have these men thus to mortify themselves, and to lead so abstemious a life, in countries where the doctrines of religion do not inculcate it as *necessary* to salvation?

In the first institution of the order, they were impelled by that enthusiasm, which sectaries invariably discover; by a desire of aggrandizing their order, and that esprit du corps, inseparable from all associations of men, more especially religious establishments.

The age in which it originated was filled with enthusiasm and superstition. Crusades, pilgrimages, and self-mortification were considered the surest roads to heaven. Since these motives, which produced and favoured the order, have ceased to operate, others less violent, but uniform and steady, have succeeded.

The orders are now wealthy and powerful; they possess the finest edifices in Europe; the noblest churches; the most romantic spots; the choicest lands; the most valuable rents. They possess every thing, which can gratify the taste or ambition of man. The Carthusians at Naples lately made a present to the *king*, of 60,000 dollars, out of their annual revenues.

To be a member of such powerful bodies, even on the condition of personal mortification and self-denial, is gratifying to human pride. Another powerful principle in human nature, operates in favour of these establishments; I mean the

love of idleness. The revenues of the convent afford a certain, and never-failing subsistence; but the most powerful operating principle in favour of entering these orders, is ambition. It is one of the roads to ecclesiastical preferment, and the only one which is open to the common people in these countries.

Honours, rank, and office, are here confined to privileged orders, except in the case of ecclesiastical dignities, and even there in point of *fact*, the exclusion of the lower classes is nearly as perfect. But by a principle adopted in the apostolick chamber, there must be four cardinals out of seventy, taken from the religious orders, or monks. Though the chance is so very small, yet as each order can boast of having given a Pope to Christendom, and as they are always represented in the college of cardinals, there is sufficient to keep alive the hopes of the most humble, and to stimulate the powerful and inextinguishable spark of ambition. Thousands, to be sure, die simple monks, and breathe their last sighs in greasy cowls, within the cells of their convent; but one happy brother is ornamented with purple stockings, and clothed in fine linen; and his rare good fortune is a sufficient nutriment for new-born hopes in his whole order, and becomes a new source of general expectation.— This principle is not confined to the monks of Italy; we see it operating in our own political affairs. The most humble of our common people are more actuated by personal ambition, than we are apt to imagine. The chances appear to be small, to be sure, in favour of any particular dunce; but the success of one such calf-killer as Sloane, or the Roxbury patriot,

kindles ardent hopes in the breasts of thousands of their bloody brethren of the knife. No delay, no want of success, should discourage the truly ambitious patriot. He should reflect that if like — he has toiled twenty years, meeting with nothing but disaster and disgrace; like him too, he may, to the astonishment of all his friends, one day display the *graces of his person* in the chair of state; or the charms of his eloquence at the court of St. Cloud, or in the purlieus of the Escorial.

In the road from Rome to this city, we passed the lake of Perugia, better known to scholars as the lake of Thrasymene, on the borders of which Hannibal defeated the Roman consul Flaminius, and when, if he had pursued his victory, and marched directly to Rome, it is probable Rome would have shared the fate which she afterwards brought upon Carthage. This battle has been so well described by different writers, and the ground taken by the respective generals, so accurately pointed out, that a traveller can easily discern upon the spot, not only how the battle was fought, but why it was lost. It is, however, a matter of astonishment to every man of sense, who views the ground, how a Roman general, acquainted with the country, could have suffered himself to be drawn into a spot where defeat was certain. At the same time it is impossible not to admire the talents of the Carthaginian general, who, in a foreign country, on land to which and to whose defiles he must have been till that time a stranger, could have contrived to draw or cajole an enemy into a position so fatal. — The lake of Thrasymene is, I should judge, about fifteen miles wide, and forty long. On the east

side it is surrounded by the Appennines, which, at two points not very far distant from each other, approach the lake in such a manner, as to form two very narrow defiles between the mountains and the lake. Between these two points the hills recede in such manner, as to form a large bason or plain of about ten miles square, and which is completely environed on the north, east, and south, by the Appennines, and on the west by the lake, with only two narrow passages by the abovementioned defiles.

Hannibal allured or seduced the Roman general into this contracted bason; seized the heights, and attacking him in flank, presented detachments of his army at the defiles to prevent his escape. Possessing the mountain tops by a numerous and well disciplined soldiery, he poured down on the heads of the wretched Romans, like an irresistible torrent. Death by water, or the sword of the Africans, was the only alternative presented to them. Never were the masters of the world so humbled, or the fate of their nation so endangered, which must be my apology for introducing so bloody a subject to a lady. — The revenge which the Romans took for this battle, I have stated to you in a letter which I wrote describing my tour along the Adriatic, on the shores of which Asdrubal, the brother of Hannibal, was completely defeated, and the general himself fell a victim to the conquerors.

Although I think that Americus Vesputius has very unfairly stolen the honour of the discovery of America, to which Columbus is certainly entitled, in the same manner that John Faust stole from his master, Laurentius Coster, the discovery of the art of printing; yet

as he is the locum tenens of that honour, and passes with the world as such, I had a great curiosity to see his tomb, which is in this city. He was a Florentine, and his tomb is placed in the church of Ogni Santi, or All Saints, belonging to the Franciscans.

There is no parade about it. It is a simple, circular piece of marble, let into the floor of the church, and either so obliterated or imperfect, that I cannot make out the date. I wish our literary friends to solve the doubt, as I give you the inscription precisely as it now is :—

S AMERIGHO VESPUCIO POSTERISQ. .
Suis
M LXXI.

You will see by the above, that

the Italians called him Amerigus, and not Americus. Why our literary men have changed it in translation, I know not. It is true, that the Italians render the Roman C often by G, but this was not a Latin nor Roman but an Italian name, and the Italian G sounds precisely like our own. I cannot see the reason why we do not call the pretended discoverer of America, Amerighus instead of Americus. I think it very likely that I shall shew my ignorance by this remark, but I really wish to be informed myself, upon the point, and to state to you, who are as little informed, the fact, that the pretended discoverer of our country was, in his own town, called as I have above stated.

Yours, &c.

From the General Magazine.

CHARACTER

OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE WILLIAM PITT,

WRITTEN BY THE RIGHT HON. G. CANNING.

THE character of this illustrious Statesman early passed its ordeal. Scarcely had he attained the age at which reflection commences, than Europe with astonishment beheld him filling the first place in the Councils of his Country, and managing the vast mass of its concerns, with all the vigour and steadiness of the most matured Wisdom. Dignity—Strength—Discretion—these were among the masterly qualities of his mind at its first dawn. He had been nurtured a Statesman, and his knowledge was of that kind which always lay ready for practical application. Not dealing in the subtleties of abstract politicks, but moving in the slow, steady procession of Reason, his conceptions were

reflective, and his views correct. Habitually attentive to the concerns of Government, he spared no pains to acquaint himself with whatever was connected, however minutely, with its prosperity. He was devoted to the State. Its interest engrossed all his study, and engaged all his care. It was the element alone in which he seemed to live and move. He allowed himself but little recreation from his labours. His Mind was always on its station, and its activity was unremitted.

He did not hastily adopt a measure, nor hastily abandon it. The plan struck out by him for the preservation of Europe, was the result of prophetick wisdom and profound policy. But, though defeat-

ed in many respects by the selfish ambition and short-sighted imbecility of foreign Powers—whose rulers were too venal or too weak to follow the flight of that mind which would have taught them to outwing the storm—the policy involved in it has still a secret operation on the conduct of surrounding states. His plans were full of energy, and the principles which inspired them, looked beyond the consequences of the hour.

In a period of change and convulsion the most perilous in the history of Great Britain, when Sedition stalked abroad, and when the emissaries of France, and the abettors of her Regicide Factions formed a league powerful from their number, and formidable by their talent—in that awful crisis—the promptitude of his measures saved his Country.

He knew nothing of that timid and wavering cast of mind which dares not abide by its own decision. He never suffered popular prejudice or party clamour to turn him aside from any measure which his deliberate judgment had adopted. He had a proud reliance on himself, and it was justified. Like the sturdy warrior leaning on his own battle-axe, conscious where his strength lay, he did not readily look beyond it.

As a Debater in the House of Commons, his speeches were logical and argumentative; if they did not often abound in the graces of metaphor, or sparkle with the brilliancy of wit, they were always animated, elegant, and classical. The strength of his oratory was intrinsic, it presented the rich and abundant resource of a clear discernment and a correct taste. His speeches are stamped with inimitable marks of originality. When replying to his oppo-

nents, his readiness was not more conspicuous than his energy. He was always prompt, and always dignified. He could sometimes have recourse to the sportiveness of irony, but he did not often seek any other aid than was to be derived from an arranged and extensive knowledge of his subject. This qualified him fully to discuss the arguments of others, and forcibly to defend his own. Thus armed, it was rarely in the power of his adversaries, mighty as they were, to beat him from the field. His Eloquence occasionally rapid—electric—and vehement—was always chaste—winning—and persuasive—not awing into acquiescence, but arguing into conviction. His understanding was bold and comprehensive. Nothing seemed too remote for its reach, or too large for its grasp.

Unallured by dissipation, and unswayed by pleasure, he never sacrificed the National Treasure to the one, or the National Interest to the other. To his unswerving integrity, the most authentick of all testimony is to be found, in that unbounded publick confidence, which followed him throughout the whole of his political career.

Absorbed, as he was, in the pursuits of publick life, he did not neglect to prepare himself in silence for that higher destination, which is at once the incentive and reward of human virtue. His talents, superiour and splendid as they were, never made him forgetful of that Eternal Wisdom from which they emanated. The faith and fortitude of his last moments, were affecting and exemplary.

In his forty-seventh year, and in the meridian of his Fame, he died on the 23d of January, 1806.

For the *Anthology.*

SILVA, No. 28.

'Ubi tu dabites, quid sumas potissimum?'

PSALMANAZAR.

AT the commencement of this pretended Formosan's vagrant life, he was unable to purchase a pilgrim's garb; but observing one in a chapel dedicated to a miraculous saint, which had been set up as a monument of gratitude by some wandering pilgrim, he contrived to take both the staff and cloak away; and being thus accoutred, begged his way in fluent latin, accosting only clergymen or people of distinction; whom he found so generous and credulous, that before he had gone twenty miles he might easily have saved money, and put himself in a better dress. But as soon as he had got what he thought sufficient, he begged no more, but viewed every thing worth seeing, and then retiring to an inn, spent his money as freely as he had obtained it. Having heard the Jesuits speak much of China and Japan, he started the wild scheme, when in Germany, of passing for a native of the island of Formosa; and what he wanted in knowledge he supplied by a pregnant invention. He formed a new character and language, on grammatical principles, which, like other oriental languages, he wrote from right to left, with great facility; and planned a new religion, and division of the year into twenty months, with other novelties to credit his pretensions. He was now a Japanese convert to christianity, travelling for instruction, with an appearance more wretched than even common beggars. He then entered as a soldier in the Dutch service; but

still desirous of passing for a Japanese, he altered his plan to that of being an unconverted heathen. And at Sluys brigadier Lander, a Scotch colonel, introduced him to the chaplain, who, with a view of recommending himself to the bishop of London, resolved to carry him over to England. At Rotterdam some shrewd persons, having put questions to him which carried the air of doubt, he took one more whimsical step, and confined himself to eating only raw flesh, roots, and herbs, by which he thought to remove all scruples. The bishop of London patronised him with credulous humanity, and Psalmanazar found a large circle of friends who extolled him as a prodigy. Yet were there some, who entertained a just opinion of him; but their endeavours to expose him as a cheat, only made others to think better of him, especially as Drs. Mead, Dalley, Woodward, &c. (the most zealous against him) were not esteemed the greatest admirers of revelation. But in this instance easiness of belief was no great proof of penetration. He was employed to translate the church catechism into the Formosan language, which was examined, approved, and laid up as a valuable MS.; and the author, after writing his well known *History of Formosa*, was rewarded, and sent to Oxford to study what he liked, while his patrons and opponents were learnedly disputing at London on the merits of his work. The very learned members of the university were no better agreed in their opinions, than those at

London. But at length the scepticks triumphed. Some absurdities were detected in his 'history,' too gross to render a declaration of his imposture necessary; but this at length he owned to his private friends; and after supporting himself several years by the labours of his pen, he died in 1763.

TASSO.

Tasso's description of Rinaldo's dalliance with Armida, is inimitably fine.

Ella dinanza al petto ha il vel diviso,
E'l crin sparge incompuesto al vento estivo;
Langue per vezzo, e'l suo infiammato,
viso
Fan biancheggiando; bei sudor più vivo.
Qual raggio in onda, le scintilla un riso
Negli umidi occhi tremulo e laschivo.
Sovra lui pende; ed ei nel grembo molle
Le posa il capo, e'l volto al volto attolle;
E i famelici sguardi avidamente
In lei pascendo, si consuma e strugge.
S'inchina, e i dolci baci ella sovente
Libra or dagli occhi, e dalle labbra or
sugge;
Ed en quel punto ei sospirar si sente
Profondo si che pensi or l'alma fugge,
Ea lei trapassa peregrina, &c.

MACBETH.

Many parts of this tragedy, requiring more elucidation, than others elaborately explained by the commentators, have been left untouched.

Boëtius, from whom Hollingshed, and through whom Shakspeare took his facts, is a lying historian.

Sc. II.

'The merciless Macdonwald,' or Macdonevald, Donevald, now Mc Dowell, was the chief of the people in Galloway, generally making inroads on their countrymen; the phrase 'is still common among them, 'the wild Scots of Galloway.'

May not this insurrection have been that of the Gallovidians? The Hebrides were the Norwegian.

—'But the Norwegian lord.'—

This invasion took place several years after Macdoneval's insurrection.

'Till that Bellona's bridegroom.'

—Bellona's bridegroom means Macbeth, any thing in the volumes of the commentators to the contrary notwithstanding.

'Lapt in proof,'—perhaps 'proof of shot,' like Orlando Furioso, &c.

Sc. III.

'And like a rat without a tail.'—

See king James's 'Demonologia,' where it is said, the warlocks, or male witches, in transformation can retain their tails; the females neither do nor can, 'causa,' &c. When the devil honours the assembly with a visit, he carries the candle under his tail, as the witch, examined before king James, confessed on trial.

'And yet your beards forbid.'—

Women in this part of Scotland discovering a beard were instantly accused of being bewitched.

'Hail to thee thane of Glamis.'

—Glamis is uniformly a word of one syllable; a broad as in saw.

'Thou shalt get kings.'—That

the Stewarts descended from this Banquo is altogether visionary. The first of the family, mentioned in authentick history was Waller, who lived in the reign of David the first, and Malcolm the fourth, circa 12th century. He built and endowed an abbey in Paisley, 1164. He was also, by the records, high steward of Scotland.

'By Sinel's death, I know.'—

A mistake. Macbeth's father's name was 'Finel,' in latin 'Finelus,' anglice Finel.

'The thane of Cawdor lives a prosperous gentleman.'—There was a thane of 'Cawdor' or 'Calder'

so late as in 1492; a proof that the more recent title of *earl*, &c. did not supercede the more ancient of *thane*, &c. &c.

'*Two truths are told*'—may be explained by supposing, the death of Finel might not be generally known. Macbeth might have received intimation by a special courier; or Finel might have been only *custos thanagii*, and after him Macbeth of some near relation the true thane of *Glámis*, who might have died while he was at the wars, and of course he would succeed to the *thaneship*. *Custos thanagii* may with as much propriety be called *thane*, as *custos comitatus* is called *earl*. One of Macduff's slain at Falkirk, 1290, is called earl of *Fife*, though he was only *custos comitatus*. We may even suppose, that Macbeth might have been acquainted with this during his harangue with Rosse by some one attending them, of course was surprised to be thus addressed by *spurius*.

Sc. IV.

'*Whom hereafter we name prince of Cumberland*.'—Malcolm was never so during his father's life.

Sc. V.

'*Missives from the king*.'—Not persons, but letters *missive*; in Scotland, holograph letters, only used on important occasions.

'*To alter favour ever is to fear*.'
'*Ill ferra*,' *'ill-favoured*;' *'ill for*,' &c.
'*Bid gold yield*.'—*Shield*, from the German *shilen*, to protect.

Sc. VII.

'*He bears his faculties so meek*.'
—The greatest charge against Duncan is his slowness to punish offences. He was murdered at a place called *Bothgouanian*, i. e. *Smitha-dwelling*.

'*Catch with his surcease success*.'
—*Duncan's surcease*.

BALLAD SINGERS.

We have a great number of ballad writers, and ballad readers, and ballad preachers, and ballad speakers; but we have no ballad singers, properly so called. These harmonious itinerant societies were held in no small estimation among the ancients. The profession is said to have originated with Homer, who hawked about his *Iliad* for an *obolus* a book. But as the trade was then in no repute, and as his poetry was neither *vendible* nor *singable*, by reason of its worthlessness, he could scarce earn salt for himself or his family. *Thespis* is said to have improved upon the art, and by tackling Pegasus to a cart, and *driving round* with his ballads he made out to 'pick up' something to keep his 'soul and body together.' Among the Romans too, we learn this practice from Virgil, whose shepherds in one of their conversations say,

—Non tu in triviis, indocte, solebas,
Stridenti miserum stipula disperdere
carmen.

Perhaps Virgil was a hawker himself; he says,

Ascræumque cano Romana per oppida
carmen.

I feel this deficiency perhaps more pungently than most people, for I am about to 'issue' a *grand national ballad*, for our grand national anniversary. I mean it shall begin thus, in the purest simplicity of American elegance.

We're so brave, independent, and val-
orous too,
And so free, that we scarcely can tell
what to do!
We are no more afraid of the world
than a feather,
We'll fight Europe, Asia, and Affric
together.

We're all so enlighten'd,
We're not to be frighten'd,
Our shafts are all dipt, and our bows
are all tighen'd.

Chorus.

For we'er shall fire burn while there's
water to quench it,
Or the hammer that drives a nail holds
out to cleach it.
Sing toi de rei, &c. &c.

Some friends, more prudent than
learned, have hinted to me that this
did not seem quite original. If
they mean by this, that it bears a
resemblance to some of our nation-
al ballads already in print, so much
the better. It is nothing more
than natural that it should, and per-
haps proper that it ought to pos-
sess a considerable similarity to
secure a favourable reception.

NEW TESTAMENT.

THE translation of the New Testa-
ment circulated in the reign of
Edward III. and afterwards, must
appear to the English reader of the
present day, who is unacquainted
with the Anglo-Saxon and Maso-
Gothick languages, almost unin-
telligible,

Amoon Ihesu constreynde the dis-
cipulis to steige in a boot.

Mathue chap. xiv. (v. 29.)

Ande the thornes stelfreden up and
strangelden.

Mark. chap. iv. 7.

What ben ye troublid, and thoughtis
stigen up in youre hertis.

Luk. xxiv. 38.

The whyche seyden by spirit to Poul,
thate he shulde not stye to Ierusalem.

Actus. xxi. 12.

The firste vos that I herde, as off a
trumpe apkyngge with me, seiyngge-
sty up hidur.

Apocalips iv. 1.

Yee faderis nyle ye terre yonoe senes
to wratthe.

Ephesies vi. 4.

PERICLES.

DRYDEN, in his prologue to the
tragedy of Circe, places Shakes-
peare's Pericles amongst his ear-
liest performances.

Your Ben and Fletcher in their first
young night,
Did no Volpone, no Arbaces write ;

But happy'd about, and sweet excursions
made

As though bought to bough, as if they were
afraid,

And each were guilty of some slighted
maid.

Shakespeare's own muse his Pericles
first bore,

The Prince of Tyre was elder than The
Moor :

'Tis miracle to see a first good play,
All hawthorns do not bloom on Christ-
mas day.

A slender poet must have time to grow,
And spread and burnish as his brothers
do.

VIRGIL.

THE following, if not Virgil's
own, is according to Scaliger, *ele-
gantissimum poematum et Virgilio
dignissimum.*

BENEDICTIO ARBIBIDIS.

SI mihi susceptum fuerit decurrere
minus,

O Paphos, O sedes que colis Idalias ;
Troius Aeneas Romane per oppida digno
Jam tandem ut tecum carmine vectus
eat ;

Non ego thure modo, aut picta tua tem-
pla tabella

Ornabo, et puris sarta feram manibus.
Corniger hos aries humilis, et maxima
taurus

Victima sacrotos tinget honore focos.
Marmoreusque tibi, versicoloribus alis,
In morem picta stabit amor pharetra.

Adsis, O Cytherea ; tuus te Caesar O-
lympos,

Et surrentini litoris ora vocat.

EPIGRAMS.

De asino, qui Aeneidem dentibus discorpeit.

Garminis Iliaci fibros consumpsit asellus.
Hoc fatum Trojae est ; aut equus, aut
asinus.

Subscriptum imagini Virgiliane.

Subduxit morti vivax pictura Maronem ;
Et quem Parca tulit, reddidit imago vi-
rum.

Hilarus.

Luois damna nihil tanto nocuere Poetae,
Quem praesentat honos carminis, et
plutei.

Idem.

Pastor, arator, eques, psvi, calui, su-
peravi,

Capras, rus, hostes, fronde, ligone, ma-
nu.

Pentadius.

—*—*—
For the Anthology.

THE STUDENT, No. 2.

THE classification of human knowledge, by lord Bacon, quoted at the close of our last number,* merits a more full description.— With this it may be useful and pleasant to give some account of the divisions of science, adopted by Mr. Locke and Mr. Hartley, and intersperse some notices of these eminent writers. This will be attempted in the present essay.

What three men have rendered more vast and valuable services to science, than Bacon, Locke, and Hartley? These are luminaries of prime magnitude and purest light, which attract the first attention, and long fix the admiration, as through the telescope of history the eye gazes on the hemisphere of genius and learning. Their mighty powers, and diligent improvement of them; their gigantic projects, and Herculean exploits, are themes on which, with ever fresh delight, *memory* loves to dwell, *imagination* to expatiate, and *reason* to ponder.

Sir Francis Bacon,† baron of Verulam, &c. had held a considerable rank among men of civil and scientific eminence, for nearly a century; and, at some periods of that space, had enjoyed unmixed celebrity; while at others, his labours were but indifferently estimated, and his mistakes or errors censured with malignant satisfaction; when Pope, by the point and

paradox of a brilliant couplet,* revived the attention of the lovers of intellect and erudition to his astonishing faculties and attainments, as well as the lovers of anecdote to his lamented aberrations. The scrutiny resulted in a verdict, which the high chancery of public opinion has sanctioned, and which is registered in the archives of this ultimate tribunal. *The poet's splendid eulogy is as just and appropriate, as his severe reprehension.* In 'parts' he 'shone' indeed, beyond competition or comparison with any of his contemporaries. From the 'darkness palpable' of superstition and bigotry, religious and intellectual, he burst forth like the full-orb'd moon from the shadow in an eclipse. Such was, in this instance, and such usually has been, and is, the dazzling brightness of pre-eminent talents, that it overpowers the vision of beholders; and it is necessary that the *medium* of time interpose, before the relative degree of lustre is ascertained and assigned.

It would not be so difficult to fill the space allowed to this number, with encomium on Bacon's genius, as it is to suppress eulogy, and submit to the task of noting deficiency or eccentricity. Respecting the civil defalcation of the chancellor, or the moral irregularities of the *man*, much might be said in extenuation; the guilt

* Page 237. The reader will notice and correct a transposition in the order of the mental faculties, which should be Memory, Imagination, and Reason.

† He was born 22d Jan. 1561, and died 9 April, 1626.

* 'If parts allure thee, think how Bacon shin'd,
The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind.'

*Essay on Man, 4 epistle, l. 233—
Published in 1734.*

might probably be chiefly affixed to his associates and *dependents*, rather than to the *minister*; but some censure, and that not small or light, must attach to the principal, who suffers prodigality in expenses, or extravagance in largesses, to involve him in mazes, and ensnare him in temptations. From the perplexities and hazards of such entanglement, few will escape without severe suffering, or bitter repentance, or just reproach. — Bacon sustained them all. To a high-minded *chevalier*, what more poignant wound could be inflicted than *exile* from the court, and *incarceration* in the tower? To the lover of hospitality, and the devoted admirer of convivial joy, whose wit and wisdom delighted every company, and always rendered him either the idolized host, or the welcome guest; what harder sacrifice could be assigned, than a mulct, which involved the abandonment of all his means of giving or receiving social satisfaction. Above all, to a mind, warmed with a love of virtue; if indeed, other passions smother the genial flame, and inspired, surely, with many high and pure sentiments, though some sordid or selfish feelings had intruded and acquired a control; what could be a more agonising reflection, than that the choicest jewel it possessed, was indelibly tarnished; the dignities which royal favour had conferred, all torn away; and a sentence of ignominy pronounced, of which, though its penalties might be remitted, the record and remembrance could never be obliterated? To the immortal honour of his *intellectual* character, be it remembered, that under the pressure of all this weighty mass, his genius rose with vigour; while a softening light is shed on his moral deviations, by the magnan-

imity with which he promptly met the investigation of his accusers, and the full, the unreserved disclosure, of all his official delinquency.

Although in morals he did not undeviatingly practise integrity; and although in science he did not profoundly understand mathematics, (what higher charges than these, can be adduced or proved against the christian and the scholar?) yet, as the writer of his life, which is prefixed to the last edition of his works, has observed with equal eloquence and truth—'The empire, he has erected in the learned world, is as universal as the free use of reason; and one must continue till the other is no more. He had a mind, which neither affected novelty, nor idolized antiquity.— These qualities, which, with a noble confidence, he has applied to himself, are obvious and eminent, in his *Instauration of the Sciences*, a work designed not as a monument to his own fame, but a perpetual legacy to the common benefit of others.'

We are thus called back to that famous arrangement, which is more especially the object of present attention. Distributing the faculties of the soul into Memory, Imagination, and Reason, he apportions to these powers their branches of knowledge, under the heads of History, Poetry, and Philosophy. If we may borrow from the Linnean system an illustration of this scheme, these may be stated as the three great *classes* of science. The first, History, includes four *orders* — natural, civil, ecclesiastical, and literary. In Natural History are two *genera*, narrative and inductive; and, in each of these, several *species*, as history of celestial bodies, of the earth, of the elements, and of mechanick arts. It might appear pedantick, and prove per-

plexing, were the whole tree of knowledge to be thus described, in its *numerous* and complicated ramifications. The most commodious and satisfactory form, in which it can be represented, is that of a map or chart, which may be found correctly and well delineated, both in the first and seventh volumes of Bacon's Works. (Edit. 1803. Lond. for J. Johnson and others, in 10 vols. 8vo.)

It must suffice, just to enumerate the principal *orders* of the classes, Poetry and Philosophy; which are, of the former, narrative, dramatick, and allegorical; of the latter, divine, (or theology;) natural, (viz. physicks, metaphysicks, and mathematicks, both pure and mixed;) and human, in which is comprised medicine, ethicks and logick, grammar, civil polity, and jurisprudence. Such, in brief, is this famous essay, to reduce study to rules; to ascertain what had been, and enforce what remained to be done; and to collect to a point the scattered rays of experiment and observation.

Six years after the departure of Bacon, arose another light of science, the celebrated John Locke. Were we allowed, or were there the same occasion, we should not be inclined to enter into so minute a discussion of the character of this man, as certainly without any premeditation on our part, and probably without much pleasure or profit on the part of the reader, has been exhibited above. No high crime in conduct is imputable to *this* illustrious scholar. His flight from his native country neither is evidence, nor has been considered as giving much cause of suspicion, that he had been in act a rebel, though in speculation he was a *republican and leveller*. From his excellent writings, in il-

lustration and defence of christianity, and from the accounts of biographers, respecting its influence on his conduct, we should hope that Locke affords *one* exception to Dr. Johnson's remarks on Milton—'Faction seldom leaves a man honest, however it may find him; and he who could impute to his king, as a heavy crime, and that in the indecent language with which prosperity had emboldened the advocates of rebellion to insult all that is venerable and great, the use of a prayer from Sidney's Arcadia, could, with a little extension of malice, have contrived what he and his friends wanted to accuse. It is to be suspected that his predominant desire was to destroy, rather than to establish, and that he felt not so much the love of liberty, as repugnance to authority!' It is rather to the reproach of the nation than the philosopher, that he was compelled to follow his patron, Shaftesbury, into exile. And when it is recollected, that in the seclusion and leisure, which were consequent on this absence from home and employment, he composed his famous 'Essay on Human Understanding,' we shall be but little disposed to blame or regret the cause. In this work he attempted much, and he certainly effected considerable. It has operated, if viewed alone, to enlarge the sphere of real and useful knowledge, and to detect the vagaries and visions of hypothetical pretenders to science. It has given rise to many treatises, which, whether supporting the general theory, or controverting particular portions of it, have given to entomology a high rank among the real and useful branches of knowledge. As one result of his essay, he has given at the close a three-fold division of the sciences, into φυσικα, Ηθικα, & Πολιτικα. These

he considers as embracing all that can fall within the compass of human understanding. The first part is the knowledge of things, their properties and operations, as they are in themselves, whether material or immaterial. The second is the skill of attaining right conduct, in order to happiness.— And the third is the doctrine of signs, in order to understand things correctly ourselves, and convey knowledge of truth and duty clearly to others.

It is at once apparent, that these three classes of knowledge are less distinctly separated, than those before considered. Indeed they seem rather branches from one root, than independent stocks of knowledge. Bacon's *Philosophy* comprise the two first, if not also the last of them; and as he has divided and subdivided the objects of reason, they seem to us most naturally and intelligibly to fall under that class. We do not purpose, therefore, to abandon our first intention, in favour of the projected alteration, even of the respected and valued Locke. On the year in which he died, was born David Hartley. His arrangement can receive at this time, but a rapid view. It in the main coincides with Bacon, and may be easily reduced to it. His worth as a man, and his excellence as an author, may be suitably acknowledged, when in the prosecution of our plan, the immortal *Observations on Man*, shall come under examination. Whether we know much, or believe any thing about his atomical mechanism and operation; whether we admit his arguments for necessity, and its natural consequences, or whether we do not, it admits neither of denial or doubt, that he thought profoundly, and has written clearly, on the human mind and conduct.

Dr. Hartley's is, perhaps, a more simple, if less systematick classification of the sciences, than either of the former. In this, knowledge of all kinds is reduced to seven general heads. 1...Philology, or the knowledge of words, comprehending grammar and criticism, rhetoric and poetry. 2...Mathematicks, divided into arithmetic, which uses numbers as the exponents of quantity; geometry, which employs figures; and algebra, whose symbols comprehend both the former. 3...Logick, or the art of using words, for making discoveries in the several branches of knowledge. 4...Natural history, viz. of animals, plants, minerals, the earth, the atmosphere, and the heavenly bodies. 5...Civil history, i. e. of the manners, customs, laws, religion, &c. of the several nations. 6...Natural philosophy, including not only physicks, but astronomy, and psychology, or the theory of the human mind. 7...Religion, or as Bacon terms it, divine philosophy; and under this are to be referred ethicks and politicks, as they are designed to promote good, and lead man ultimately to the favour and enjoyment of God.

For the *Autobiography*.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE LITERATURE IN FRANCE,
IN 1806.

IT is necessary to recollect something of the state of French literature before the decline and extinction of the ancient monarchy, or we may otherwise lament the loss of what was never possessed. No one, unless deeply tainted with English prejudice, will venture to pronounce, that the French have any necessary and invincible inaptitude for any department of literature, who recollects that they have produced Malebranch in metaphysics, Montesquieu in politics, Descartes and Pascal in mathematics, the Stephens, Casaubon, and Villoison in ancient literature, and poets without number and almost without rivals. Still, however, French literature has always been more celebrated for richness than solidity, and they have ever considered poetry, eloquence, and the drama as its shining side, and resigned the palms in the severer sciences to their less vivacious, but more philosophical neighbours. They may be compared with any nation for every thing connected with the elegant, the gracious, the witty and alluring; but their writings have not been generally remarkable for solid and philosophical thinking, for clear and exact analysis, for simple and copious illustration, and for wide, various, and deep research. If this general character of French literature be allowed to be just, there were certainly no symptoms under the ancient *regimé* of any approaching degradation. Without any more proof, it will be granted that the old ages of the monarchy produ-

ced its full proportion of scholars, when it is recollected that it was decorated by the names of Buffon, D'Alembert, Marmontel, Condillac, Thomas, La Harpe, and Villoison.

It is not yet time to judge fairly of all the effects of the revolution. Most of those who at present support the literary reputation of the country, received the elements of their education under the ancient system, and many, whose powers should have been now unfolding, were swept away by the torrent, which spares only the bad, the insignificant, and the unknown. Nor, on the other hand, are all the evils of the horrible conscription yet fully displayed. What an approach will it be to the barbarism of the early ages, if it should become the object of a great nation, not to embellish the mind, but to fortify the body; not to investigate moral and philosophical truth, but to make war a more rapid instrument of destruction. In Nor can it be said that this is altogether an idle fear, when we anticipate the necessary effects of the system. Eighty thousand (and when the emperor pleases, by an artifice in the arrangement, one hundred and twenty thousand) are annually subtracted from the peccable population of the country, and the safety of all of a similar age is likewise endangered. A father, whose fortune is just sufficient to give an education to his son, (and the parents of literary men have been mostly of this class,) has all inducement to bestow it, in this way destroyed, by the probability

that his son will be torn from him just at the period, when his talents are beginning to be developed. To procure a substitute has now become heavily expensive. What then remains for the wretched father, but to submit to his fate; give his son a military education, suffer him to become a soldier and be undone. To refinement, to morals, to literature, and to religion, he then most infallibly becomes dead.

If however we proceed to examine the actual state of literature without speculating on the future, it must be confessed, that in *natural history*, in the *mathematics*, particularly as they are connected with the art of war, and above all in *chemistry* the character of the nation perhaps never before stood equally high. Such a constellation of talents, as the mathematical and physical class of the Institute exhibits, I suppose we might look for in vain in any other country of Europe.—Without attempting to depreciate these sciences, for I am full of respect for them, it may however be observed, that although they call forth as much acuteness and even genius as any others, yet as they are advanced by immediate deduction from experiments, without many foreign intermediate ideas, they are connected with fewer collateral subjects, and demand therefore less previous and subsidiary acquisition, than the other branches of knowledge. If so, the great and merited renown of Fourcroy, Berthollet, and Vauquelin; of La Grange, Legendre, and La Place;* of Cuvier, Haüy, and Lacépède, however justly it may

be appealed to, as a proof that the ingenuity of the nation has suffered no decay, does not alone assure us that its less severe sciences, its philosophy and taste, flourish without diminution.

Excepting then in physicks and mathematicks, if you inquire what standard scientifick works have appeared within the last fifteen years, the answer must be, none.—In metaphysicks this is not strange, since from some cause the French have never been very successful in its cultivation. Some of the works of Condillac are of value, but for his most important ideas he is indebted to Locke. The present metaphysicians content themselves with giving new names to old ideas, reviving exploded doctrines, writing flimsy books on materialism, from which they deduce a kind of Epicurean atheism, making distinctions without differences, and concluding with some flourish about the progress of science, reason, and illumination. The writers most in vogue at present are Cabanis and De Tracy.

On the subject of philosophy, including morals, I suppose I must be prejudiced; but certainly I find no traces of what I have been accustomed to in the English school. They who call themselves their votaries wander now only in the gardens of Epicurus; they retire not to the recess of Pythagoras, they sit not in the Academy of Plato, in the Lyceum of Aristotle, nor under the Portico of Zenø; how then should they enter the humble walks of the lowly and unassuming Nazerene? No; if, so long ago as when Dr. Priestley visited France, he was stared at when he avowed his sincere belief of Christianity; they would now weigh it very seriously against

* I do not include La Londe, for, as I heard it observed by one of the Institute, he has lived longer than his reputation.

his other claims to distinction. In a late number of the *Revue*, when noticing a new edition of the works of Rollin, they gravely apologize for giving the name of philosopher to one, who was at the same time a Christian and a Jansenist.—But enough at present of a subject, on which I cannot write cheerfully.

The cause of ancient literature has received a severe blow from the revolution. In many of the *Pensions* Greek is not taught at all, and few learn more of Latin than to enable them to point a dull period, by some common-place quotation. The deep and ample learning of the Port-Royal and Sorbonne is no longer known. It expired with Villoison. They attempt to supply its place, by multiplying translations, and these to be sure fall

‘thick as autumnal leaves
That strew the vale of Vallambrosa.’

By the way, the very number of these translations affords one of the best answers to the opinion of La Motte, Perault, Voltaire, Condorcet, &c. that they render useless the knowledge of the original languages. For if it be possible to transfuse the beauties of the ancients into modern languages, some one translator must surely have by this time succeeded; but that this is not the case, the multitude of new attempts is a sufficient confession. If, indeed, notwithstanding our marble is of equal beauty, and our colours of equal brilliancy, it has been found a hopeless task to attempt to copy the charms of the Venus and Apollo, and the sublimity of the Transfiguration and Last Judgment, how can it be imagined that in languages of far inferior flexibility, harmony, and grace, we should re-produce the wonders of the eloquence of an-

tiquity; or revive the sublime raptures of its bards?

This poverty of classical knowledge is followed by its inevitable attendant, incorrect taste. In our inquiry into the causes of corrupt eloquence in any country, it is here that we always find our answer; it is by this, for instance, that we at once account for the false rhetoric, for the tumid, unnatural, and distorted kind of writing, which we every where see in America. It is commonly a shrewd symptom of the decline of taste, when nothing will do that is not terse, sententious, antithetical, and pointed; when every one is run away with a passion for *calembourge, bon mots*, and the various forms of *le bel esprit*. I would by no means deny that there are still fine writers in France; there certainly are many, many well-read, classical scholars. But it is not to be denied, that the majority, and those too the most popular, have the faults at which I have hinted. They are full of exaggeration, and swell of ostentation without riches, of artificial passion, and pathos made by rule. Those higher flights of composition, which a fine writer hazards seldom, and which indeed owe their effect to their rare occurrence, they scatter in every page. What can be written in a more pitiful style than the proclamations to the army, the occasional flourishes in the bulletins, &c. although they are said in Paris to bear traces of an imperial hand? They would disgrace Toussaint or Dessalines.—Of the present state of French poetry, I have little to say. Delille, now extremely old, who has formed himself on the model of the English poets, and who, in truth, deserves his fame, must be considered as belonging to the last age. On the whole, I suspect that

one is safe in saying, that, with the exception of Delille, there is no poet at present, who will outlive his age.

It would not be wonderful, however, if the spirit of literary enterprise were more completely extinguished than it actually is ; for never has the world before seen a despotism over the press so extensive, systematick, and effectual, as is now exercised in France. Even under the most savage of the Roman emperours, Juvenal could publish his satires, though not perhaps with personal impunity ; but in France, the author of any thing offensive is not only punished himself, but his work is rendered harmless by being completely suppressed before it sees the light. The Institute itself, though it must be allowed to be, in general, tolerably complaisant and docile, sometimes falls under his majesty's displeasure. They proposed, several years since, to publish a revised edition of the Dictionary of the Academy. I saw, in their transactions, the memoir, which was drawn up, and the names of the committee raised to execute this intention ; but on inquiring for the work, I was told, that though it had been completed, and actually passed through the press, not a copy of it had ever publicly appeared. It seems, that they had thought it necessary to record the new words, which had been coined in the revolution, together with the new meanings which had been given to old words, and to subjoin to them the names of their authors. Under the word *usurpateur*, they maliciously mentioned a new sense given to it by the emperour, in a speech to the senate, and subjoined the authority of Bonaparte. For this and some similar liberties, the whole impres-

sion was sequestrated. A poor bookseller ventured to republish Delille's poem, *La Pitié*, from the original text, as it appeared in London ; he was rewarded by the seizure of the work, and apartments were assigned to himself in the temple. It would be easy to collect many similar anecdotes.

These observations you will find hasty, and perhaps incorrect.— They were made during a short residence of less than six months, confined exclusively to Paris. It is not, perhaps however unjust, to judge of the literature of the country, by what appears in the metropolis. The influence of a capital is every where great ; but it is more so in France than in any other country of Europe. The darling object of pride and boast with a Frenchman is 'la belle,' 'la magnifique ville,' and we have seen this prejudice retain its force when almost all others, however ingrained and inveterate, were loosened and swept away. We have seen Paris, during the revolution, quietly give law to the remotest provinces of the empire, wield, at the will of its mobs, their passions and opinions, produce every where an immediate imitation of its habits, however frantick and absurd, and obtain unresisting and implicit acquiescence in every new master, which its whim might impose.— There is another reason why Paris should be the centre of the literature of the nation. It is not in France as in England, where, in every town of any importance, you find ample publick and private libraries, and of course some literary society. So far from this, especially since the destruction of the convents, and provincial colleges, that a man of letters is compelled to resort to Paris, not only for patrons and associates in his

studies, but even for the means of pursuing them. These means and facilities for cultivating literature, are, in truth, admirable and unqualified. They are extremely well described in Wyttenbach's life of Ruhnken, and as it may amuse you to see the manner in which Paris affected a scholar and a Dutchman, I am going to transcribe the passage:—

Nullus, aiebat, in toto terrarum orbe locus, item ut Lutetia, cum abundat omni ornatum artium doctrinarumque materia & suppellectile, tum affluit omnis generis voluptatum defulsarumque instrumento. Ne dicam de magnificentibus edificiorum operibus, basilicis, templis aliis, eorumque et magnitudine et magnificentia, consistit in eam: urbana quidquid et arte officii, et ingenio exorbitari potest, cum ad delectandos oculos, tum ad oblectandos aures, tum ad reliquos sensus titillandos et ac mulcendos: Igitur et doctrina studiosus habet, quo descendat, placando genio honestam dittericuluta; et voluptarius habet, quo se a Sirenibus ad Musas attonat oportunitate receptaculum: Omnes ad Musas aditus uniceique parent et aperit bunt, si quidem publico & communi usui dicata sunt Musæ, ubi, cum libri omnium generis exponuntur, tum spectanda exponuntur artium liberalium opera man-

facta, Pictura, Staturarum, Sculptura; Numismatica; aliarum materies et officia item physica, anatomica, medicina, mechanica, astronomica, historia naturalis, et nullius non disciplina: Sed non nullus in promptu et obvius versantur voluptatum illecebrarumque variaz formæ, quibus ubique occurrentibus et blandè accidentibus, qui non convertatur aliquando, is aut ferreus sit, aut perfectus e Stolca schola, sapiens.—Vita D. Ruhnkenii. Auc. Wyttenbach, pag. 370.

* He was born in Germany, but he came so much attached to Holland, that he refused an offer to return home, because, says his biographer, Batave terre invidiosæ captus.

His visit was made to Paris before the revolution, but his remarks at present have lost none of their truth. The pleasures, which he seems to have found it so difficult to resist, have certainly not diminished in number or attraction. Indeed the Parisians seem to have returned to more than their ancient dissipation. They have learned no wisdom from the horrors through which they have passed: The volcano has exploded, and spent its fury; and while its lava is scarcely cool, they have already again built upon it, and the soil is more fruitful than ever in folly and crime. Like the Romans under the emperors, as described by Juvenal, they have ceased to be interested in public affairs, and demand only 'panem et circenses,' bread and dissipation. Their most serious occupation is to discuss the merits of a player, or to dwell on the attitudes of a dancer. But I grow weary of the subject. — G. O. Alden.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 22.

Populus me sibi fiat ; at mihi plaudo
Ipse domi, simul ac nummos contempler in aera.

HORACE. Sat. 1.

THE desire of gain is so strong and general, that mankind, in their anxiety to attain the end, are very apt to be indifferent about the means : hence the necessity of laws to secure the possession of property from fraud and violence, and which, from the severity of their nature and the rigour with which they are executed, are generally sufficient to answer the purpose for which they were instituted. But though men in civil society may feel tolerably secure against forgery and theft, yet there are many who become the prey of the unfeeling and unprincipled, and are deprived of what is justly their own by means, against which legislative wisdom cannot adequately provide.

Usury, the mean vice of low and sordid minds ; expressly forbidden by the Deity, and prohibited by human institutions ; insidious in its means, and pernicious in its consequences ; is, by the cunning of its perpetrators, not only able to elude legal restrictions and escape punishment, but to find that extreme degree of toleration, which ought only to be allowed to the infirmities of nature, to difference of opinion, and errors of judgment. Against the highwayman, the housebreaker, and the pickpocket, every one will readily assist to render his neighbour secure, or join to pursue the offender and bring him to justice ; but when misfortune presses, or temporary exigencies occur, which might call forth the offices of friendship, and

afford opportunities for generosity to display itself ; it is then that the usurer stretches forth his grasping hand, and with unrelenting cruelty augments his exactions in proportion as increasing distresses are calculated to excite compassion in the humane and just. In other countries the common prey of the usurer is the thoughtless heir, and dissipated man of fashion ; but here his victims are the industrious tradesman, and well-meaning adventurer in commerce, who, when once entangled, seldom escapes. till he is reduced to beggary ; while his oppressor exultingly counts the thousands he has gotten by means more base and criminal, than those for which many wretches suffer on a gallows ; is enabled by his riches to direct the monied and civil establishments of his country, acquires an extensive influence over his fellow-citizens, is admitted into the best society, nay, is even courted with that respectful attention, which is due alone to venerable wisdom, unsullied integrity, and disinterested virtue.

In a country, young and populous like this, when the events of the European world have opened so many avenues to mercantile pursuits to an enterprising people, it may frequently happen, that the regular trade of the time may justify a man in giving considerably more than the common interest for money ; and what a fair trade will justify one in giving, will justify another in receiving, because he could make the same profits as

the other, if he employed his money the same way : but it will not be pretended by an honest well-informed merchant, that any regular trade will enable him to give from twenty to thirty, and even forty per cent. per annum for money ; he knows, that a capital resting on such a foundation must soon fall, and spread ruin and desolation around it, unless supported by dishonest means, or attended by such a constant run of good fortune as seldom happens to the most ardent and successful gambler.

The common, and indeed the only plausible plea of the usurer, is, that money is an article of commerce, and, as every thing in trade is worth as much as it will bring, therefore they have a right to sell their money for as much as they can get : but very few are so ignorant, as not to know, that they are imposing a fallacy on mankind, while they attempt to justify themselves by this hacknied sophism ; for it must be evident to all, who reflect on the subject, that money is the medium by which the operations of commerce are facilitated ; it is what Hume calls the oil to the wheels of commerce, and therefore cannot be called the machine itself, or the effects of the machine, though it may contribute much to assist the cause : it represents every commodity we make use of, whether raw or manufactured ; but the representative and the thing represented cannot be the same, the shadow and the substance are not the same, the portrait and the person painted are not one and the same person, nor are the objects reflected in a mirror the same in nature and substance, as the appearance it represents. It would

be an insult to common sense to waste time in farther attempts to expose a fallacy, which must be obvious to every one, that chooses to examine it. But, if it be granted that money is a commodity, and therefore worth as much as it will bring ; they will not be able to prove, that, when fairly brought into market and subjected to the same competition as other articles, it will bring as much profit, as they can gain by having their emissaries to pry into the particular situations, occasional emergencies, and declining prospects of their fellow-citizens ; and taking advantage of knowledge thus attained to extort such exorbitant terms in secret, as they never wish to exhibit in the open light of day : of this they are well enough convinced, and this a necessary respect to the principles of wise and good men makes them seem to be ashamed of : else why do they endeavour to hide their transactions from publick view, and skulk in brokers' alleys and about the corners of the streets, when banking hours are nearly over ? Why do they not come forward and justify the practices of extortion ? why do they attempt to conceal a conduct, which they pretend to say is but one of the branches of fair and honest trade ? They shrink from scrutiny, because it would expose them as the abettors of gambling speculations, as vultures who feed on diseased and rotten carcases, as harpies who take malignant pleasure in the cries of human misery, as bawds who live by being the panders of vice, who assist the profligate to dissipate his patrimony, and the swindler to cheat a greater number of honest creditors.

To the Editors of the Anthology.

Mendon, May 9th, 1807.

GENTLEMEN,

I saw in the Monthly Anthology and Boston Review, for January last, Nathaniel Gardner's Latin translation of Dr. Watts' ode on the Nativity of Christ. The friend who furnished the editors with the copy, says, 'it is not known to whom the letters S. W. refer;' but adds, that 'they probably indicate the person to whom the performance was addressed.' I was well acquainted both with Mr. Gardner, and with him whom the lucubration was intended to delight. He was a kindred genius, named Samuel White; had been a student at the *same college*; was graduated a year or two after his friend Gardner; like him rose, *passibus citis*, while an under-graduate, to considerable celebrity for

classical erudition; and after leaving that seminary was, several years, usher in the north Latin school in Boston, under good master Wiswall. He had a reigning inclination to poetise, and was thought happy in divers productions; particularly in his metrical version of some parts of the *Canticum Canticorum*, which he shewed me in manuscript, before they were published, at different times, in Edes & Gill's newspapers. The words *sua carmina*, in Gardner's introduction, may, from what I have written, be accounted for; though the sentence which they begin, being incomplete, 'cannot be fully explained.' The demise of White was not long before nor after that of his friend.

Yours,

SAMUEL BEXTER.

POETRY.

For the Anthology.

FROM A MANUSCRIPT OF THE LATE HONOURABLE

BENJAMIN PRATT, Esq.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW-YORK.

THOUGH guilt and folly tremble o'er the grave,
 No life can charm, no death affright the brave.
 The wise at nature's laws will ne'er repine,
 Nor think to scan, or mend the grand design,
 That takes unbounded nature for its care,
 Bids all her millions claim an equal share.
 Late in a microscopick worm confined;
 Then in a prisoned fetus, drowns the mind;
 Now of the ape-kind, both for sense and size;
 Man eats, and drinks, and propagates and dies.
 Good gods! if thus to live our errand here,
 Is parting with life's trifles worth our fear!

Or what grim furies have us in their power
 More in the dying, than each living hour ?
 Ills from ourselves, but none from nature flow,
 And Virtue's path cannot descend to woe ;
 What Nature gives, receive ; her laws obey ;
 If you must die to-morrow, live to-day.

The prior states, thy mind has laboured through,
 Are drown'd in Lethe, whose black waves pursue
 To roll oblivion on each yesterday,
 And will to-morrow sweep thyself away.

But where ! Not more unknown is future fate,
 Than thine own end and essence in this state.
 We see our shapes, and feel ten thousand things ;
 We reason, act, and sport on fancy's wings ;
 While yet this agent, yet this spirit, lies
 Hid from itself, and puzzles all the wise.
 In vain we seek ; inverted eyes are blind ;
 And nature form'd no mirror for the mind.
 Like some close cell, where art excludes the day,
 Save what through opticks darts its pencil'd ray,
 And paints its lively landscape to the sight,
 While yet the space itself is blank in night.
 Nor can you find, with all your boasted art,
 The curious touch, that bids the salient heart
 Send its warm purple round the veiny maze,
 To fill each nerve with life, with bloom the face ;
 How o'er the heart the numbing palsies creep,
 To chill the carcase to eternal sleep !
 'Tis ours to improve this life, not ours to know
 From whence this meteor, when, or where 'twill go.
 As o'er a fen, when heaven's involved in night,
 An ignis fatuus waves its new-born light !
 Now up, now down the mimic taper plays,
 As varying Zephyr puffs the trembling blaze,
 Soon the light phantom spends its magick store,
 Dies into darkness, and is seen no more.

Thus run our changes ; but in this secure,
 Heaven trusts no mortal's fortune in his power,
 Nor hears the prayers impertinent we send
 To alter Fate, or Providence to mend.
 As well in judgment, as in mercy kind,
 God hath for both the fittest state designed ;
 The wise on death, the fools on life depend,
 Waiting with sweet reverse their toils to end.
 Scheme after scheme the dupe successive tries,
 And never gains, though hopes to gain the prize.
 From the delusion still he ne'er will wake,
 But dreams of bliss, and lives on the mistake.
 Thus Tantalus, in spite, the Furies plied,
 Tortured, and charmed to wish, and yet denied,
 In every wish infatuate dreads lest Jove
 Should move him from the torments of his love,
 To see the tempting fruit, and streams no more,
 And trust his Maker in some unknown shore.
 Death buries all diseases in the grave,
 And gives us freedom from each fool and knave,
 To worlds unknown it kindly wafts us o'er ;
 Come, Death ! my guide, I'm raptur'd to explore !

THE BOSTON REVIEW

SELECTIONS.

FROM THE NEW-YORK EVENING POST.

On revisiting the Cottage of Rosa in early Spring, after a long absence.

SEVEN Summers have flown, and once more do I see
The fields and the groves I deserted so long;
Scarce a bud yet appears on the winter-beat tree,
Nor a bird yet enlivens the sky with his song.

For though Spring has returned, yet the chilly wind blows,
And the violets and daisies still hide in the ground;
But one dear little flower, one beautiful Rose,
Here blooms and here blushes the seasons all round.

Thou pride of the plain, little Queen of the grove,
Still fresh is thy foliage, and sweet thy perfume,
And still the bright object of PARIDEL'S love,
As when thy first buds were beginning to bloom.

And though fate has decreed that he must not aspire
This blossom divine on his bosom to wear,
Yet still must he cherish the tender desire,
And make thee forever the theme of his prayer.

Blow gently, ye Zephyrs, be genial ye showers,
Bright and warm be the sky o'er thy dear native vale,
And may no bitter blast ever ravage the bowers,
That guard thy fair frame from the merciless gale.

And when the short season of blooming shall end,
Which fate to the children of nature has given,
May some cherub of beauty, to snatch thee, descend,
And bear thee to bloom in the garden of heaven.

PARIDEL.

EPI TAPH.

TAKE, holy earth, all that my soul holds dear,
Take that best gift, which heaven so lately gave.
To Bristol's fount I bore with trembling care
Her faded form. . . . She bow'd to taste the wane,
And died. Does youth, does beauty read the line
Does sympathick fear their breast alarm?
Speak, dear Maria, breathe a strain divine,
E'en from the grave thou canst have power to charm.
Bid them be chaste, be innocent, like thee;
Bid them in duty's sphere as nimbly move:
And if as fair, from vanity as free,
As firm in friendship, and as fond in love,
Tell them, though 'tis an awful thing to die,
Twas say to thee, yet the dread path once trod,
Heaven lifts her everlasting portals high,
And bids the pure in heart behold their God.

THE BOSTON REVIEW,

FOR
JUNE, 1807.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quæ commendanda, quæ eximenda, arbitraver. Nam ego dicere vero assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ARTICLE 33.

Valerian, a narrative poem, intended, in part, to describe the early persecutions of christians, and rapidly to illustrate the influence of christianity on the manners of nations. By John Blair Linn, D.D. late pastor of the first presbyterian congregation in Philadelphia; with a sketch of the life and character of the author. Philadelphia, printed by Thomas & Geo. Palmer. 4to. pp. 97.

THE biography, prefixed to this poem, is, with a few exceptions, well written, and must be particularly gratifying to the friends of the deceased, to whom both the poet and his productions must be infinitely more interesting, than to the publick at large. Dr. John Blair Linn was a young man of unquestionable talents, and had his life been spared, might have produced something creditable to himself and country. But as the works, which he has left behind him, have no claim to extraordinary merit, it is not probable that they will long survive their author.

The present poem is entitled to every indulgence, as it is an unfinished and posthumous production. But still our duty imperiously demands of us to point out its defects; and at the same time we give our unqualified disapprobation of thus publishing the posthumous

crudities of young writers, of no established reputation. The injudicious partiality of friendship ought not to volunteer a measure of this nature; and, in our opinion, nothing can justify the publication of posthumous productions, but the loud and repeated call of the publick voice, arising from the well-grounded popularity of the writer, when living.

The poet supposes an imaginary nation, of Tuscan origin, settled on the borders of the Caspian sea. The country he calls Montalvia, and the inhabitants Montalvians. Among these brave and virtuous people lived Alcestes, a sage advanced in years, honoured by his sovereign, and respected by his tribe. Azora, a beautiful girl of eighteen, his only child, and an aged dog, composed the whole family of Alcestes, who, retired from the busy scenes of crowded life, resided in a rural cottage, whose whole furniture is described as consisting of a bed, some rushy seats, and a lumbering chest. As the venerable old man was enjoying his morning walk, attended by his faithful dog, attracted by the loud barking of the animal, he turned round, and observed, on the shore, the body of a man, apparently lifeless. With the humanity that might be expected from a person of his character, he convey-

ed the stranger to his cottage, and, assisted by his lovely daughter, restored him to life and health. The remainder of the first book is employed by Alcestes, who, at the request of the stranger, describes the country of Montalvia, its monarch, cities, and police.

The second book contains the history of the stranger, a Roman, and a christian, whose name is Valerian; who, having fled from the religious persecution of his countrymen, after a variety of adventures, here detailed, at length embarks on board a vessel, which is wrecked, and he alone is saved, in the manner already related.

In the third book, a mutual passion is felt by Valerian and Azora. He is introduced to the king by Alcestes; gains the royal confidence, and converts him to the christian faith. The nation followed the example of their sovereign, abandoned their idolatries and superstitions, and embraced christianity. The satisfaction, however, at this change of religion, was by no means universal. Palladon, who is portrayed as

‘A wileful priest,
Hoary in years, and versed in deeds of
blood,’

is determined to avenge the subverted altars of his country, by taking the life of Valerian. He assembles his followers for this purpose, and it is agreed on between them, that the first favourable opportunity shall be improved, of executing their vengeance on the stranger. A hunt is then introduced, and the strange adventures that follow, seem to have little or no connexion with the main design of the poem.

Such is this unfinished and strange production, of which we shall briefly point out the defects.

‘Time, as she flew, increased
Their number and their strength.’
Book I. l. 13.

This is the first instance, in which we have ever discovered Time to be of the feminine gender. We have always found him delineated as a venerable old gentleman, with wings, an hour glass, and a scythe. We should have supposed this a typographical error, were it not that the book is printed with uncommon care.

‘Oft listening to thy wayward dreams
I’ve followed thee o’er cloud-capt hills,
o’er streams.’ L. 28.

The introduction of rhymes into a poem, written in blank verse, is contrary to the usage of the best English poets.

‘And o’er
Her shoulders fell a shining flood of
hair.’ L. 66.

A *flood of hair* is an affected expression, ridiculous and unauthorised.

‘Azora’s voice,
Companioning, far sweeter than its own.’
L. 79.

Companioning is a word invented, without taste, low, and unpoetical. He describes Valerian, as a *man bereft of life*; an expression, surely, too strong for suspended animation.

‘And nought it has to please or interest,
Unless it meet an interest in your love.’
Book II. l. 17.

These lines contain a miserable quibble. Besides, the word *interest* in the preceding line is falsely accented, on the first instead of the last syllable.

‘He triumphed o’er the grave; he liv-
ed again on earth.’ L. 127.

This line is an Alexandrine, and not admissible in blank verse.

Valerian describes himself in company with two hundred chris-

tians, retired within a cave, to enjoy in private that exercise of their religion, which was denied to them in publick, when they were unexpectedly assailed by their persecutors, who entered the cavern in arms. He makes his temporary escape in the following very improbable manner :

‘ Sometime had slaughter rioted and
raged,
When I, contending in the face of
death,
In hopes that darkness might afford es-
cape,
Flew to the places where the lamps
were hung,
Dashed them to earth, extinguished
all their light.
Shrouded in night, and in a cave im-
mured,
The Roman soldiers could not now dis-
cern
Their friends from foes : wild uproar
now arose ;
Confusion fell upon the heathen fiends ;
They poured down blows upon each
other’s heads,
And in mistake they one another slew :
A night more terrible I never saw.
I, purposing escape, in silence crept
Along the walls, until I reached the
door :
Then calling to my friends, I bade
them seize
The present time of flight, and follow
me :
And springing upwards, o’er the flight
of stairs,
I gained the street, and saw the moon
and stars.
Scarce had I time to breathe and look
around,
When I was seized by the patrolling
guards,
Was bound with heavy chains, and
then was thrown
In a deep dungeon, cold, damp as the
grave.
Excluded there from light or human
voice,
I lay some weeks, and would have wel-
comed death ;
I had but little food, and that was
coarse,
And such as hunger only would receive.’

Page 45.

The following passage deserves commendation, as containing the natural sentiments, well express’d, of a prisoner in a foreign country, in momentary expectation of suffering execution :

‘ Land of my fathers ! scenes of infant
years !
Ye hills, and plains, ye streams and
tangled woods,
O’er which I roved, in boyhood’s artless
days,
O shall Celestian never see ye more !
Deceiving visions of the night, away !
Hush not the tumults of the soul to rest,
To wake again to keener pangs of woe.’
L. 409.

The description of the hunt, in the third book, we shall cite as the best specimen we can find of the poet’s descriptive powers, which is not without merit, though clumsily introduced :

‘ Gondalbo’s trumpet at the dawn of
day
Had summoned to the chase his sport-
ful friends :
With these came forth a troop of mar-
tial dames,
Led by Rolinda, first of all in charms.
Valerian, curious to explore the wood,
Where the magician kept his mystick
school,
Accoutred in the armour of the land,
Mounted a steed, and followed in the
train.
His stately form, the grace with
which he moved,
And checked the fury of his headlong
horse,
Struck his beholders with surprise,
but most
Rolinda’s eye him followed o’er the
plains,
And most her tongue was lavish in
his praise.
His courser bounded to the winding
horn,
And to the clamours of the noisy
hounds,
That echoed from the hills ; he proud-
ly pranced,
He snuffed the gale, and waved his
floating mane.
When they had reached the borders of
the wood.

Valerian saw with wonder its thick
shades,
The towering height of its deep-rooted
oaks,
And felt the chill of their o'ershadow-
ing gloom.

Far in the woods the hunters had not
plunged,
Before the hounds from his rude co-
vert roused
A huge and furious boar; his glaring
eyes
Shone like two stars amidst the depths
of night;
Like to the murmur of seditious winds,
His breath was heard from far; he
champed the foam
Which dropped down roping from his
crooked tusks.
He heard the tumult of the coming
war,
And high upridging his hard bristly
back,
Prepared to meet the onset of his foes.

The dogs that first advanced were
gashed and torn,
Their fellows fled, the stoutest hunter
paused.

Swift as the winds Rolinda onward
flies,

Not heeds the counsel of her female
train:

At the fierce beast she boldly hurls
her spear;
True to her aim, it strikes him in the
side,

The blood pours down in torrents from
the wound.

The monster rages with excess of pain,
And turns his wrath on her who gave
the blow,

Loud roaring like the storm. Rolin-
da's steed

Starts back and trefbles, while the
powderous boar

Against him rushes, throws him to the
earth,

And with him the fair burden which
he held.

Helpless Rolinda lies, expecting death:
Valerian sees, he hastens to her aid,
He throws himself like lightning from
his horse,

With his long spear he rushes on the
boar,

And buries it in his extended jaws:
He falls, and shakes beneath his
weight the ground.

Valerian raises the affrighted maid,

And gives her back in safety to her
friends. P. 68—71.

We conclude our remarks by
protesting once more most serious-
ly against this practice of publish-
ing posthumous works, which can
never be justified, but where it is
known to have been the design or
request of the writer, where the
publick demand the publication,
or where there is a probability,
that the community will derive
some important advantage from
them, by the discovery of some in-
genious invention, or some politi-
cal information, which otherwise
might be lost to the world.

ART. 34.

*Collections of the Massachusetts His-
torical Society, for the year 1800.
Vol. VII. Boston, S. Hall. 1801.
8vo. pp. 280.*

THIS respectable institution
must not attribute the long inter-
ruption, in our notice of their pub-
lications, to any intentional neg-
lect—Much less may they impute
to us a light estimate of their la-
bours. The tribute paid on a for-
mer occasion*, is regarded as justly
due to their liberal zeal and learned
diligence in promoting the knowl-
edge of the early history and pre-
sent topography of our country.
Nor will we plead, as we might,
that we have waited, as though
bound by decorum, for a new pub-
lication to be issued by them, before
we proceeded farther in reviewing
their past labours. We do indeed
hope, that they will ere long favour
the publick with another volume; as
much interest has been excited by

* See Review, &c. of Vol. V.—An-
thology for Dec. 1805, Vol. II. p. 660.

some original and valuable papers in the last numbers, particularly the Ecclesiastical History of our State; for the continuation and conclusion of which excellent performance we impatiently wait.

The true reason for this delay has been the multiplicity of claims on the attention of our coadjutors to more recent productions, of which the authors and publishers have been importunate for immediate attention.

In pursuance of the method, before used, we shall give some account of each separate article in the volume before us; entering into a more detailed criticism, or giving considerable extracts from the more important; and passing others with little farther comment, than a description of its purpose, and sometimes no more than a mere copy of its title.

Three pages of 'Remarks on a History of Salem' precede the 'Contents' of the more legitimate 'Collections.' These refer to the character, given in the last volume, of Roger Williams, which is here supposed to have been too favourable. Such as feel interested will compare this 'examination' with the 'history,' and also with Mr. Bentley's rejoinder in the succeeding volume. The result of what may be said on both sides is ably and faithfully reported in an after 'Collection.' See Ecc. Hist. in Vol. IX. p. 23—25.

The first article, which follows, is 'A History of Cambridge,' &c. by Dr. Holmes. This is a good specimen of the geographical, historical, and biographical knowledge and taste of the writer. The style is clear; the narrative easy; and the reflections generally correct and useful. This town justly excites the curiosity of travellers, and an account of it will generally

interest readers, as the seat of the most ancient and distinguished American college. The particulars of the history, and description of the institutions of Harvard University, though not so full and minute as many of her children may desire, include much useful information. The 'Sketches' of the ministers of Cambridge exhibit talent and judgment, and will be read with much satisfaction, not only by those more immediately concerned, but by all who are curious to become acquainted with the worthies of our land. On the whole, this communication may be considered one of the best descriptions of towns contained in the Historical Collections, whether we regard its composition, or the information it contains. The following extracts refer to topics of common curiosity, and will enable our readers to judge of Dr. H.'s manner of writing:

"In 1639, the first printing press, erected in New-England, was set up at Cambridge, 'by one Daye at the charge of Mr. Glover,' who died on his passage to America." The first

* "The Reverend and judicious Mr. Jos. Glover, being able both in person and estate for the work, provided, for further compleating the colonies, "in church and commonwealth, a "printer," &c.—*Wonder-working Providence*, X.

Nothing of Daye's printing is to be found. The press was very early in the possession of Mr. SAMUEL GREENE, who was an inhabitant of Cambridge, in 1639, and who is considered as the first printer in America. His descendants, in every succession to this day, have maintained the honour of the typographical art. The present printers, of that name, at New-London, and New-Haven, in Connecticut, are of his posterity. The first press was in use at Cambridge, about half a century. The last thing I can find, which issued from it, is the second edition of Eliot's Indian Bible, in 1685. Some reliques of

thing which was printed was the freeman's oath; the next was an almanack made for New-England by Mr. Pierce, mariner; the next was the Psalms newly turned into metre.†

The Ecclesiastical fathers of New-England, dissatisfied with Sternhold and Hopkins' version of the Psalms, then in common use, resolved on a new version. Some of the principal Divines in the country, among whom were Mr. Welde and Mr. Eliot, of Roxbury, and Mr. Mather of Dorchester, undertook the work. Aiming, as they well expressed it, to have 'a plain translation, rather than to smooth their verses with the sweetness of any paraphrase;' and regarding 'conscience rather than elegance, fidelity rather than poetry,' their version, it seems, was too crude to satisfy the taste of an age, neither highly refined, nor remarkably critical. Hence, Mr. Shepard, of Cambridge, addressed them with this monitory verse:

'Ye Roxbury poets, keep clear of the crime
Of missing to give us very good rhyme:
And you of Dorchester your verses
lengthen,
But with the texts own words you will
them strengthen.'

This Version was printed at Cambridge in 1640; but requiring, as it was judged, 'a little more art,' it was committed to President Dunster, a great master of the oriental languages, who with some assistance, revised and refined it, and brought it into that state, in which the churches of New-England used it for many subsequent years.‡ P. 19.

this press, I am informed, are still in use in the printing-office at Windsor in Vermont.

Mr. Samuel Hall, printer to the Historical Society, printed the New England Chronicle at Cambridge, from the commencement of the revolutionary war, in 1775, to the removal of the American army from Cambridge. A new printing press was set up in this town, the present year, by Mr. William Hilliard, a son of my worthy predecessor in the ministry.

† *Windsor's Journal*.

‡ The Rev. Mr. Prince, of Boston, observed, that, when he was last in England, in 1737, he found this Version

The following expression, in note on p. 9, surprised us much: — Chicketaubu was the sagamore of Neponcett, which could not have been far from Boston, &c. The river Neponset is that which separates Dorchester and Milton.

'A Review of the military operations in North-America, from the commencement of the French hostilities on the frontiers of Virginia, in 1753, to the surrender of Oswego, in 1758,' &c.

This letter, which is said, in a note, to be from the late Governor Livingston, and his friends Smith and Scott, is a masterly production. It comprizes a view of the ambitious and tyrannical projects and attempts of the French; a character of those who most ably and successfully opposed their designs; with a statement of the importance of the colonies to the mother country; in a strain of eloquence and argument, which would do honour to any statesman. It abounds with those profound political remarks, which indicate deep wisdom and thorough reflection; and with those brilliant illustrations, which display a rapid imagination and a cultivated taste. If we consulted our own recollection, of passages which evince these powers, we should present for the gratification of our readers very copious extracts. One, we trust, will induce such, as conveniently can, to peruse the original; and room cannot be afforded to satiate the curiosity of

—
"was by some eminent congregations "there preferred to all others in their "publick worship." I find the eighteenth edition of this Version printed with the Bible at Edinburgh, in 1741; and the twenty-third (I suppose New-England) edition, printed at Boston in 1730. The Rev. Mr. Prince revised and improved this New-England Version, in 1758.

others. The following observations on Mr. De Lancey's advancement will probably be applied to other characters and after-events in our country :

'Should it now be inquired, Must not a man, so extremely popular, be necessarily possessed of eminent virtue, and warmly devoted to the weal of the people, who thus cordially resound his fame, submit to his control, and agree to adorn his triumph? The question can only come from a novice in history, and a stranger to mankind. In the judgment of your Lordship, who is deeply read in both, I am confident that popularity is no indication of merit. With the deluded multitude the best men are often unpopular; the most pernicious, extolled and adored. The people are ever ready to be bewitched, cheated, and enslaved, by a powerful, crafty seducer: and, what is worse, ever ready to sacrifice whoever would disabuse and release them. The same people who could, without emotion, behold a Sidney bleeding in defence of public liberty, could commit a riot in rescuing a Sacheverel for preaching sedition and subverting the nation. Your Lordship remembers, that Massanello, in the short space of ten days, was a poor fisherman, a popular incendiary, a sovereign viceroy, stripped of his honours, treated like a malefactor, knocked on the head, and thrown into a ditch. Who in fine was more popular than the pestilent Claudius, except, perhaps, the more pestilent Cataline? It was, therefore, well observed by the protector Cromwell, that the very men, who followed him with acclamations and torrents of flattery, would, with the same demonstrations of joy, accompany him to the gallows.'

P. 85.

'Description of Wiscasset,' &c. by Alden Bradford, Esq. A short but pleasant and useful account of this place, and the adjacent country and waters.

P. 171. 'Witham Marsh's Journal of the Treaty held with the Six Nations, &c. at Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, June, 1744.'—There is much humour in the diary of his journey from Annap-

olis to Lancaster, and back. The register of proceedings respecting the treaty is conspicuous, and interspersed with many characteristic anecdotes of the Indians and others. The contrast between the place, as he has well described it, and what it now is, must be very striking to those, who have seen this flourishing city.

P. 202. 'List of Publick Offices, &c. in Maryland.'

P. 203. 'Union of the British American Colonies, as proposed in the year 1754.'

P. 207. 'Report of the Committee, chosen by the General Assembly of Connecticut, respecting the foregoing,' &c.

P. 210. 'The Reasons considered and offered, by the Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut, concerning the Plan of Union,' &c.

P. 215. 'Petitions and Representations from Members of the Church of England, in Boston, for Bishops.'

These several documents may amuse the antiquary, and assist the future historian of our country.

P. 219. 'An Account of the Trade,' &c. of Newfoundland, in 1799.

P. 220. Number of British subjects in the colonies, &c. 1755.

Bill for better regulating of Charter and Proprietary Governments, &c.

P. 222. Dedications to Rev. J. Eliot's Indian Bible, printed at Cambridge, New England, by Samuel Green and Marmaduke Johnson. 1663.

'The following dedications to the translation of the old and new testament in the indian language, by the celebrated ELIOT, are great curiosities. Such were annexed only to the few copies sent to England: and are of course the very scarce appendages of a very scarce book. Of six copies of the indian bible, which I have seen; no one

possessed these dedications. The following were taken from a mutilated copy, used in a barber's shop for waste paper. From this intended destruction they were eagerly snatched, by the hand which writes this, *as truly valuable relics.*'

P. 228. 'Sir Thomas Temple's Apology for Coinage in Massachusetts.' A candid and respectful correction of Dr. Robertson; enlivened with this amusing extract from Memoirs of Hollis :

'Sir Thomas Temple, brother to Sir William Temple, resided several years in New-England during the interregnum. After the restoration, when he returned to England, the king sent for him, and discoursed with him on the state of affairs in the Massachusetts, and discovered great warmth against that colony. Among other things, he said they had invaded his prerogative by coining money. Sir Thomas, who was a real friend to the colony, told his majesty, that the colonists had but little acquaintance with law, and that they thought it no crime to make money for their own use. In the course of the conversation, Sir Thomas took some of the money out of his pocket, and presented it to the king. On one side of the coin was a pine tree, of that kind which is thick and bushy at the top. Charles asked what tree that was? Sir Thomas informed him it was the royal oak, which preserved his majesty's life. This account of the matter brought the king into good humour, and disposed him to hear what Sir Thomas had to say in their favour, calling them a "parcel of honest dogs."

P. 231. 'Inquiry relative to his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut, 1773, with the Answers by the Governour, &c. 1774.' This State happily has experienced no revolution in its government; the following is therefore accurate history, though some verbal alterations may be the proper consequence of posterior changes in the state of our nation :

'Q. VI. What is the constitution of the government ?

VI. The constitution of the government, by royal charter, is a legislative power vested in the general assembly, which consists of the governour, or in his absence the deputy-governour, and twelve assistants (called the upper house); and representatives, not exceeding two from each town, chosen by the freemen of the respective towns they represent, (called the lower house.)

No act is valid without the joint concurrence of both houses: they make laws, institute judicatories, appoint judges, and other necessary officers, who are sworn to a faithful discharge of their trust. A general assembly is holden agreeable to royal charter, in May and October, annually; and at other times when called by the governour, or in his absence the deputy-governour, on any emergency.' P. 234.

'XXI. The civil officers of the colony are: the governour, deputy-governour, and twelve assistants, annually chosen in May, by the freemen of the colony, and take their several and respective corporal oaths, according to our royal charter: at the same time is chosen and sworn according to law, a treasurer and secretary. By law are established one superiour court, whereof is one chief judge, and four other judges; which court is held in each county twice in a year: an inferiour or county court in each county, whereof is one judge, and two or more justices of the quorum: courts of probate in eighteen districts, whereof is one judge in each district: justices of the peace for each county, whereof there is one or more in each town: one sheriff, and one king's attorney in each county.' P. 238.

P. 239. 'Some Account of the severe Drought in 1749, from a MS. of Mr. James Blake, of Dorchester.' This gentleman was a very minute annalist and sensible remarker.

P. 241. 'Grand Jury's Bill against Mary Osgood.' Presentment for *witchcraft* and *league with the devil!*

P. 242. 'Biographical Notice of Rev. James Noyes, first minister of Newbury.'

'A Description and Historical Account of the Isles of Shoals.—From this very interesting narra-

tive much information and gratification may be derived.

'These islands, in former times, were in a very respectable and flourishing state. The inhabitants were industrious, prudent, temperate, and regular and decent in their attendance on the institutions of religion. They had magistrates and other officers annually chosen by the people, to execute their wholesome laws and regulations; and to maintain order and peace in the society. The inhabitants were respectful, kind, and generous to their minister: and considering the nature of their employment, and their consequent habits, they dwelt together in a good degree of harmony. Such appears to have been the prosperous and happy state of the inhabitants of these islands, particularly during the ministry of Mr. Tucke. This good man died, deeply and universally lamented, on the 12th of August, 1773.' P. 257.

'From the dispersion of the inhabitants of these isles in 1775 till November 14, 1800, the few, who remained, had lived for the most part, without law or order, destitute of the means of religious or moral instruction, and had of course, degenerated into a pitiable state of ignorance, poverty, anarchy, and wickedness. At the period last mentioned, when their new meeting house was dedicated, the inhabitants assembled, and, by the written compact annexed, formed themselves into a social state, and, in a formal manner, pledged themselves to abide by certain regulations, and elected two of their number, as assessors, who, with the missionary, for the time being, were invested with the power to carry said compact into effect.

In consequence of all these things, these islands are renovating in their appearance; and a hope is entertained, that they will soon rise to their former state of regularity, and respectability. Should Massachusetts and New-Hampshire cede their right in these islands to the U. States (a plan which some have contemplated), and the federal government should think it expedient to establish them as a *free port*, and form a harbour, and erect the necessary fortifications and lights, they would soon become a place of much importance to the United States.' P. 260.

P. 262. 'Ecclesiastical History of Massachusetts,' &c. This is the commencement of a work, long wanted and expected. If general conjecture be correct respecting the author, it could not be in abler or more diligent hands. A subject of this important nature, the execution of which, as far as it has been prosecuted, reflects honour both on the society and the individual, merits more full discussion, than can well be allowed in the closing part of an article already tediously long. Reserving then our comments, for the Continuation of this History in an after volume, we close this notice with the earnest and respectful wish,
I hede fausto.

ART. 35.

A poem on the restoration of learning in the east, which obtained Mr. Buchannan's prize. By Charles Grant, M. A. fellow of Magdalen college.

Nec remorantur ibi; sic rerum summa novatur

Semper.

Luce.

Salem, Cushing and Appleton.
1807. 8vo.

THIS poem we have not read with unmingled delight. Separate from its imperfections, which are scarcely worth regarding, the perusal of it excites many a painful sensation. Allowing the poet to have struck the sweetest and the boldest strains, yet are they not less mournful, than delightful to the soul. If his subject demanded the full flow of his verse, it is one with which so many unpleasant recollections are associated, that the tear of pity might moisten the eye, while the melody of numbers enraptures the ear. While he deplores the persecuting bigotry of *Araucanoe*, the irruption and rav-

ages of Nairn, we can but mourn over, 'ill-fated India;' and when the poet celebrates 'the restoration of literature in the east,' we cannot help inquiring, with whom is it restored? What poet now sings 'in the full melody of Sanscreeet rhyme'? What learned Pandcet has Hindostan now to boast? Their glory has departed, and another people have usurped it. These are reflections, which almost involuntarily arise, when even the name of India meets the ear. But this is not the poet's fault, and whatever censure we may pass upon his work, we trust, will not be considered as arising from that state of our feelings, produced by the emotions that arise in our bosoms for miseries, which he had no hand in producing.

The poem, now under consideration, we are, on the whole, pleased with; though in some parts uninteresting and unequal in its merit. There are beautiful passages and lines scattered throughout it; some wherein boldness of imagination is displayed, and others which tell you that the poet's ear is tuned to melody. After giving the character of Arungzebe, one of the ravagers of the east, and the manner in which he spent his earlier years as an amate and thorny rockass, he proceeds:

'Thus, by fell visions rous'd, th' usurper springs
Fires from his lair, to lap the blood of
kings.
Go, count thy spoils, thy trophies grim
rehearse,
Three brothers murder'd, and a father's
curse.
Go, rear the massed war the gasping
wound
Of trampled hosts, while India weeps
around:
On Hindoo shrines thy bigot fury pour,
And quench the darts of sharp remorse
in gore.'

The description of the progress of O'er havoock's work, and all the ruin
guides,
As from the realms that own stern
Yama's sway,
Some fierce Aswra rushes to the day,
While swift his wheels divide the deep
on high,
The clouds, like wreaths of foam, a-
round them fly
Wide as he glides, his eyeballs scatter
wee,
And serous lightens from his slanging
bow.'

After speaking of Nairn Shah, and relating his desolating progress, he has these beautiful lines, referring to the civil discord which immediately succeeded:

'Beneath th' usurper's frantick sceptre
bow'd,
How droop thy hallow'd vales, roman-
tick Oude:
Bahar wears mournfully the servile
chains,
And tyranny o'erwhelms fair Hoogley's
plains.
Ah, beauteous Cashmere, love's en-
chanting vale!
What new Abdallah† shall thy woes
bewail?' P. 11.

We might extract other passages, which would convince us that the author has the feelings of a poet; and many lines equal in sweetness to this:

'Where health on Tabriz breathes with
all her gales.' P. 11.

The author has a happy talent of inserting proper names, without roughening his verses; and his rhymes are, with scarce any exception, correct. Yet he has some lines, that are forced and harsh; in a few he borders on prose, and in others professes grandia, turget.

It is observable, that in subjects of this nature, there are not of

* Yama, the judge of hail. † The Aswra, or evil genii, under his dominion.

† A celebrated poet, who died A.D. 1630.

similes resorted to, which resemble those celebrated beauties who continue to be toasts after several changes of admirers, as a mere matter of course. To these our poet has, with great independence, refused to pay court. He seems judiciously to have avoided an excursion into that region of metaphor, whose air has been so long and so often breathed, that it has become too rarified, either to impart or to preserve vitality. Yet even in the few which he has introduced, he has not been very successful. The two following are rather awkwardly expressed :

'Still social war, in gloomy wrath array'd,
Succeeds the fury of the Persian blade ;
As when the lightning rush'd along the wind,
Touch'd by its stroke the mountain flames behind.' P. 11.

The meaning is, that civil contentions arose after the rage of foreign war had ceased.

'The classic graces fly their cherish'd shade.
Oft their bright train, ere yet the war arise,
E'en from its distant rumour shrinks and flies :
So ere it touch the steel, the solar ray
Flays off from the keen edge, and glides away.' P. 26.

This, though more perspicuous than the former, is rather too far-fetched to be pleasing. There sometimes occurs one of those sweet sounding unintelligibles, which often serve to cke out a love song. As,

'Nor pensive love-notes sooths the plane-tree shade.' P. 12.

'Measure is grief but smiling to destroy,
And what is sorrow but the ghost of joy ?' P. 33.

Sir W. Jones is described with propriety :

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' Profound to reason, or to charm us gay,
Learn'd without pride, and not too wise to pray.' P. 30.

While recounting the arts and sciences in which India flourished, he treats them thus ubhandsomely :

'Astronomy her high career begun,
And bade him rise from earth, to watch the sun ;
To purify with pity and with dread,
Sage tragedy her moral lesson spread ;
And history round her curious glances cast,
And the future reason'd from the past.
While Valmick's epick song, with heavenly art,
Inspir'd, dilated all the generous heart.' P. 15.

It reminds us of one, who feels it his duty to invite certain persons to his house, from whose company he had much rather be excused, and, after all, cannot treat them with common civility. These, however, are succeeded by much finer lines :

'Nor less inspired and bold, in later time,
Flow'd the full melody of Sanscreeet rhyme,
Which tells what hosts on Kirket's plains engaged,
What ruthless wars fraternal chieftains wag'd.
Here the fierce Koorooos all their thunders pour,
Bheems' dreadful shell, and Bheeshma's lion roar,' &c. P. 16.

The plan of this poem is what might very naturally suggest itself. The first part of the poem describes the degraded state of Hindoo literature during the latter part of the last century. A transition is then made to its ancient splendour, during the period when India was governed by her native kings ; and the last part is taken up in celebrating the revival of learning on the banks of the Ganges, under the auspices of the English. *Times*.

is a great deal of information displayed in it; and although not the noblest performance of genius, it rises far above mediocrity. The poet's ear will sometimes be offended, but it will much oftener be gratified: the critick may now and then have occasion to knit his brow, but his good humour will quickly be restored:

ARTICLE 23.

(Continued.)

Memoirs of Dr. Joseph Priestley, to the year 1793, written by himself; with a continuation to the time of his decease, by his son, Joseph Priestley; and observations on his writings, by Thomas Cooper, serjeant at law of the 4th district of Pennsylvania; and the Rev. William Christie. Northumberland, Penn. printed by J. Binns. 1806.

THE next part of this work comprises the view and analysis of Dr. Priestley's works, by Mr. Cooper and Mr. Christie. Before we proceed to this part of the book, we shall offer some remarks, suggested by the memoirs, of which we have given a sketch. These memoirs contain, besides the facts related, his, and his biographers' opinions and assertions upon different subjects, and an exhibition of the character and principles of Dr. Priestley, entitled to notice. They insist that Dr. P.'s place is high on the scale of moral worth. It cannot be denied that he possessed many amiable dispositions, and practised many virtues. He was a devout worshipper of God, in the character in which he conceived him. In the conduct of his studies and pursuits, and in his literary and scientific labours in general, views of publick utility appeared to predominate over those of fame or

profit. His life gave ample proofs of sincerity, disinterestedness, and probity. He was always temperate, and frequently abstinent. He was invariably diligent in the use of his time and talents; and never felt the leaden weight of sloth; nor deferred his task from an indisposition to perform it. He observes that he had oftener occasion to blame himself for anticipating, than for delaying the business that was before him. Whether it was a sanguine temperament, or an uncommon superiority to selfish considerations, that induced him to promulgate and to express all his opinions, without any regard to consequences, or any care how much the prejudices of men might be shocked, or their feelings exacerbated, we need not determine. He always persisted to believe that every subject is open to discussion; and that nothing, which any man thinks true or useful, need be suppressed in concession to the imbecility or depravity of human nature. According to him, it is lawful to instruct the subjects of a monarchy, that kings are the scourges of heaven; the citizens of a republick, that they would show their wisdom by choosing a king; and the members of an ecclesiastical establishment, that every such establishment ought to fall, and must fall. He deems himself injured and persecuted, by having been considered unfriendly to his own country, merely for writing against the wisdom and utility of its institutions. For he insists, that though a revolution is an evil, the continuance of abuses is a greater evil; and that the mischiefs of putting down a bad system, are too temporary and trifling to be balanced against the chance of a glorious and happy result of the experiment. In allowing the right

of investigation; to all parties, he is more liberal than all the champions of the people in this country, where the people have the whole power. Here we are given to understand, that though the institution of kings, and dukes, and bishops, may be treated with every freedom, yet a denial of the divine right of republicanism, is treason. There are certain "primary principles, which constitute the leading, essential, distinguishing features of an elective republick, which are to be treated with solemn reverence, and supported by a religious respect."

Dr. P. and his friends demand for him, the praise of candour, and a readiness to acknowledge mistakes. His steadfast adherence to his long received and long cherished opinions and theories in philosophy, amidst all the new causes of doubt or disbelief, which appeared, might perhaps consist with these qualities. For he himself taught, that the understanding, not less than the affections and actions, is subject to the influence of habit; and that reasoning is feeble against inveterate modes of thinking. Dr. P. is sometimes contemptuous in argument, and seems to think a certain degree of that 'high seasoning of controversy,' which he complained of in Dr. Horseley, is to be allowed. Yet he confesses that he was more sarcastick and disrespectful in his remarks on the Scotch metaphysicians, than, upon reflection, he approves. In one class of subjects, his feelings seem to have blinded his judgment; his pride or resentment to have prevailed against his reason, or he would have discovered less pertinacity in adhering to the tenets to the political sentiments and revolutionary theories, which he formerly adopted. Events had so completely suited them; his con-

scient prediction of the good issue of the French revolution had been so completely disappointed and shamed, that it appears to us the mind must be made of stubborn stuff, or consigned to the despotism of party and passion, which could refuse to admit the delusiveness of its former speculations. He expresses no astonishment, and exhibits no humiliation, that he espoused with ardour the French revolution; as though its atrocities were not involved in its principles; and speaks as though he had reason to be proud of the invitation to be a member of the national convention.

In the offices and relations, which Dr. P. sustained, he exemplified the greatest diligence and fidelity. As a minister, he was laborious and attentive. He particularly bent his efforts to the formation of religious sentiments and moral habits in the young; and bestowed great pains on this part of his charge, by lectures and catarchical instructions, in addition to the weekly services, in which the whole congregation were concerned. As a schoolmaster and professor, he was indefatigable and patient, and spared no exertion to produce in his pupils the utmost improvement, of which they were capable. He is known to have been amiable and affectionate in the intercourse of private and domestick life. He and his biographers aim to vindicate his character as a citizen. They are highly displeased that he was not considered a good subject in his own country, and that his political sentiments and associations made him invidious to any persons in this. But it cannot be denied, that the complexion of many of his publications, and the proceedings of many of his friends in England, were of a nature to excite alarms

banditti; especially, after the scenes exhibited in France, scenes which made humanity shudder and reason recoil, and compelled every civilized government to tremble for its existence, and every enlightened advocate of liberty to abhor revolution. He said he was peaceable, whilst, at the same time, he was laying a train, that, if it took effect, would destroy and lay waste society. He was a severe sufferer by the brutal fury of the mob at Birmingham. But it would have been right, if he had seen himself condemned of a gross disregard of caution, however pure were his intentions, in this exhibition of the temper of an inflamed populace. The excesses, which occasioned him such terror and mischief, and were near costing him his life, were the same in kind as those which his friends celebrated with triumph, and the same as his principles and opinions, operating as they might have done on the popular passions, would have spirited the multitude to commit against the friends of the court and the establishment.

It is ascribed to a change of politics in this country, a change which the son calls disgraceful to America, that Dr. P.'s political character, sunk in the esteem of the federal party. This is said without foundation. The enlightened men of this party never respected Dr. P. for the part he took relating to the French revolution, or for his countenance of the spirit of innovation and change in England. They had no confidence in his theories about popular rights and civil polity; and they knew from the first, that he did not understand the nature of our governments. But they honoured him for his virtues as a man, and his merits as a philosopher; and whilst he forbore to interfere in politics,

they were desirous he should live here in quiet and reputation. But when, at a time that France was heaping indignities and injuries upon our country, and insiguing with the people against the government, he joined with her partizans in their festive celebrations; when he retained among his intimates one of the defamers of our tried statesmen, and preachers of sedition; when he appeared so weak or so perverse, as to lend his name to the unfounded and profligate slanders of the Washington and Adams administration, he indeed lost much of the regard of the federalists. Although we have no idea that the alien law was made with any particular reference to him, as he supposes, or that Mr. Adams had any intention of sending him out of the country, we admit that his conduct produced the alienation and regret of many, who had before held him in much consideration.

In these memoirs much pains are taken to show, that Dr. P. had reason to be satisfied with his reception in this country, and was not disappointed in his expectations of the state of things here. When he first arrived, he paid lavish encomiums upon our constitutions, and upon the people; and he continued in this strain for several years. A letter written in October, 1796, gives a very flattering account of the Americans. Yet, in a *Maxim of political Arithmetic*, published in Feb. 1798, we find a different tone. The following passage deserves to be quoted:

A stranger naturally expects to find a greater simplicity of manners, and more honesty, in this new country, as it is called, than in the old ones. But a nearer acquaintance with it, will convince him, that, considering how easily subsistence is procured here, and consequently how few independent persons

use to the vices of the lower classes especially, there is less virtue, as well as less knowledge, than in most of the countries of Europe. In many parts of the United States there is also less religion; at least of a rational and useful kind. And where there is no sense of religion, no fear of God, or respect to a future state, there will be no good morals that can be depended upon. Laws may restrain the excesses of vice, but they cannot impart the principles of virtue.' P. 46.

If 'universal suffrage,' so much relied on by these gentlemen, for securing all that a good man should wish for a country, will not secure knowledge, nor virtue, nor religion, more effectually than the hereditary governments of Europe, on what accounts is it entitled to preference? And what become of republican visions?

When we consider the multiplicity and variety of Dr. P.'s pursuits, and the number of his works, we naturally inquire by what means he accomplished so much. In composition he generally contented himself with being perspicuous, and spent no time upon the graces of writing. Still many of his works must have required great labour and research. His mind possessed great 'compass and versatility.' To abilities indisputably superiour, he joined uncommon industry, activity, dispatch, and method. The following selections from the memoirs, will furnish interesting information respecting the cast of his mind, his modes of study, and habits of life:

'I have particular reason to be thankful for a happy temperament of body and mind, both derived from my parents. My father, grandfather, and several branches of the family, were remarkably healthy, and long lived; and though my constitution has been far from robust, and was much injured by a consumptive tendency, or rather an ulcer in the lungs, the consequences of improper conduct of myself, and pro-

per school (being often violently heated with exercise, and as often imprudently chilled by bathing, &c.) from which with great difficulty I recovered, it has been excellently adapted to that studious life which has fallen to my lot.

'I have never been subject to head-ache, or any other complaints that are peculiarly unfavourable to study. I have never found myself less disposed, or less qualified, for mental exertions of any kind at one time of the day more than another; but all seasons have been equal to me, early or late, before dinner or after, &c. And so far have I been from suffering by my application to study, (which however has never been so close or intense as some have imagined) that I have found my health improving from the age of eighteen to the present time; and never have I found myself more free from any disorder than at present. I must, however, except a short time preceding and following my leaving Lord Shelburne, when I laboured under a bilious complaint, in which I was troubled with gall stones, which sometimes gave me exquisite pain. But by confining myself to a vegetable diet, I perfectly recovered; and I have now been so long free from the disorder that I am under no apprehension of its return.

'It has been a singular happiness to me, and a proof, I believe, of a radically good constitution, that I have always slept well, and have awaked with my faculties perfectly vigorous, without any disposition to drowsiness. Also, whenever I have been fatigued with any kind of exertion, I could at any time sit down and sleep; and whatever cause of anxiety I may have had, I have almost always lost sight of it, when I have got to bed; and I have generally fallen asleep as soon as I have been warm.'

'I even think it an advantage to me, and am truly thankful for it, that my health received the shock that it did when I was young; since a muscular habit from high health, and strong spi-

'My father was an early riser. He never slept more than six hours. He said he did not remember having lost a whole night's sleep, but once, though when awake he often had to suffer much from pain and sickness, as well as from other circumstances of a very afflictive nature.

See, art. 40, I think, in general accompanied with that sensibility of mind which is both favourable to piety, and to speculative pursuits.

“To a fundamentally good constitution of body, and the being who gave it me, I owe an even cheerfulness of temper, which has hindered but few interruptions.” pp. 101-2-3.

Yet, notwithstanding these advantages, he seems to have laboured under some peculiar defects :

“As I have not failed to attend to the phenomena of my own mind, as well as to those of other parts of nature, I have not been insensible of some great defects, as well as some advantages, attending its constitution ; having from an early period been subject to a most humbling failure of recollection, so that I have sometimes lost all ideas of both persons and things, that I have been conversant with. I have so completely forgotten what I have myself published, that in reading my own writings, what I find in them often appears perfectly new to me, and I have more than once made experiments, the results of which had been published by me.

“I shall particularly mention one fact of this kind, as it alarmed me much at the time, as a symptom of all my mental powers totally failing me, until I was relieved by the recollection of things of a similar nature having happened to me before. When I was composing the *Dissertations* which are prefixed to my *History of the Gospels*, I had to ascertain something which had been the subject of much discussion relating to the Jewish passover, (I have now forgotten what it was) and for that purpose had to consult and compare several writers. This I accordingly did, and digested the result in the compass of a few paragraphs, which I wrote in short hand. But having mislaid the paper, and my attention having been drawn off to other things, in the space of a fortnight I did the same thing over again ; and should never have discovered that I had done it twice, if, after the second paper was transcribed for the press, I had not accidentally found

“Though not a muscular man, he went through great exertion at various times of his life with activity. He walked very firmly, and expeditiously.

the former, which I visited with a degree of terror.

“Apprized of this defect, I never fail to note down as soon as possible every thing that I wish not to forget. The same failing has led me to devise, and have recourse to, a variety of mechanical expedients, to secure and arrange my thoughts, which have been of the greatest use to me in the composition of large and complex works ; and what has excited the wonder of some of my readers, would only have made them smile if they had seen me at work. But by simple and mechanical methods one man shall do that in a month, which shall cost another, of equal ability, whole years to execute. This methodical arrangement of a large work is greatly facilitated by mechanical methods, and nothing contributes more to the perspicuity of a large work, than a good arrangement of its parts.”

pp. 105-6-7.

“Though I have often composed much in a little time, it by no means follows that I could have done much in a given time. For whenever I have done much business in a short time, it has always been with the idea of having time more than sufficient to do it in ; so that I have always felt myself at ease, and I could have done nothing, as many can, if I had been hurried.

“Knowing the necessity of this state of my mind to the despatch of business, I have never put off any thing to that last moment, and instead of doing that on the morrow which ought to be done to-day, I have often blamed myself for doing to-day what had better have been put off until to-morrow ; precipitancy being more my fault than procrastination.

“It has been a great advantage to me, that I have never been under the necessity of retiring from company, in order to compose any thing. Being fond of domestick life, I got a habit of writing on any subject by the parson-fire, with my wife and children about me, and occasionally talking to them, without experiencing any inconvenience from such interruptions. Nothing but reading, or speaking without interruption, has been any abstraction to me. For should not help attending (as some can) when others spoke in my hearing. These are useful habits, which stand out persons in general stand upon.”

if they would; and many persons greatly distress themselves, and others, by the idea, that they can do nothing except in perfect solitude or silence.

p. 109.

'It was while my father was at the academy that he commenced a practice which he continued until within three or four days of his death, of keeping a diary, in which he put down the occurrences of the day; what he was employed about, where he had been, and particularly an exact account of what he had been reading, mentioning the names of the authors, and the number of pages he read, which was generally a fixed number, previously determined upon in his own mind. He likewise noted down any hints suggested by what he read in the course of the day; It was his custom at the beginning of each year to arrange the plan of study that he meant to pursue that year, and to review the general situation of his affairs, and at the end of the year he took an account of the progress he had made, how far he had executed the plan he had laid down, and whether his situation exceeded or fell short of the expectations he had formed.' p. 176.

'But what principally enabled him to do so much was regularity, for it does not appear that at any period of his life he spent more than six or eight hours per day in business that required much mental exertion. I find in the same diary, which I have quoted from above, that he laid down the following daily arrangement of time for a minister's studies: Studying the Scriptures 1 hour. Practical writers half an hour. Philosophy and History 2 hours. Classics half an hour. Composition 1 hour—in all 5 hours. He adds below, "All which may be conveniently dispatched before dinner; which leaves the afternoon for visiting and company, and the evening for exceeding in any article if there be occasion. Six hours not too much, nor seven."

It appears by his diary that he followed this plan at that period of his life. He generally walked out in the afternoon or spent it in company. At that time there was a society or club that assembled twice a week, at which the members debated questions, or took it in turn to deliver orations, or read essays of their own composition. When not attending these meetings, he most generally appears to have spent the

evening in company with some of the students in their chambers.

It was by the regularity and variety of his studies, more than by intensity of application that he performed so much more than even studious men generally do. At the time he was engaged about the most important works, and when he was not busily employed in making experiments, he always had leisure for company, of which he was fond. He never appeared hurried, or behind hand. He however never carried his complaisance so far as to neglect the daily task he had imposed upon himself; but as he was uniformly an early riser, and dispatched his more serious pursuits in the morning, it rarely happened but that he could accomplish the labours assigned for the day, without having occasion to withdraw from visitors at home, or society abroad, or giving reason to suppose that the company of others was a restraint upon his pursuits.

This habit of regularity extended itself to every thing that he read, and every thing he did that was susceptible of it. He never read a book without determining in his own mind when he would finish it. Had he a work to transcribe, he would fix a time for its completion. This habit increased upon him as he grew in years, and his diary was kept upon the plan I have before described, till within a few days of his death.

p. 186—188.

The Appendices, which treat of the writings of Dr. P. are next to be considered.

A. M. 37.

A Sermon delivered before the Governor, the honourable Council, and both branches of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the day of general election, May 27, 1807. By William Bentley, A. M. minister of the second church in Salem. Boston, Adams & Rhoades.

Obscurity is said, by the critics to be one source of the sublime. It is unlucky for the rev-

erend author of the election sermon, that it is not the only source; for in that case, however unintelligible, he might have enjoyed the credit of producing a most sublime performance.

Pope observes, that, "true, no meaning puzzles more than wit"; and we must fairly acknowledge, that no offspring of the press, which we have yet perused, has been involved in such impenetrable obscurity as this sermon. The poetry of Lycophron is clear and intelligible, compared with the prose of Mr. Bentley. We have read it, and re-read it; we have transposed and analyzed its sentences. But in vain.

—ibi omnis

Effusus labor.

Ipsæ diem noctemque negat discernere celo,

—Involvitur caligine cœca
Prospectum eripiens oculis.

Mr. Bentley early obtained, and had long enjoyed, the reputation of a great scholar. He had holden a distinguished rank among the American *literati*; and a democratic congress considered themselves as paying a compliment to learning, when they chose for their chaplain the *Minister of the second church in Salem*. But whence was this fame derived? What evidence have the world ever received of the superlour talents of Bentley? This question is not easily answered. The reputation for great parts is very oddly acquired in this country, where all our geese are swans, and our swans, alas! too often turn out geese.

Had Mr. Bentley been satisfied with the literary character, which ignorance and credulity bestowed on him, he might still have passed, with these who do not know him, for, what the English style, a very clever fellow. He might still have

preached and prayed; in the second church of Salem, before his own enlightened congregation, without having his abilities called in question. But in an evil hour he resolved to publish. Vanity urged him on, he appeared in print, and the world were undeceived. His pen produced the opposite effect of Ithuriel's spear, and caused this literary giant to shrink, from his imaginary bulk, into a contemptible dwarf, inferior in dimensions to the most diminutive of mortals.

But let us proceed to the sermon of this great scholar. The text is to be found in Dent. xxxii. 3. The sermon begins thus :

"We refer to the Hebrew scriptures for political, united with religious reflections, as their government combined these two objects, which the christian scriptures do not."

Pray, Mr. Bentley, what is the government of the Hebrew scriptures? The great scholar proceeds,

"The religious sentiments of all ages, and the nature of all religious establishments, as well as the example of the primitive settlers of New-England, have concurred in recommending the appropriate devotions of this day."

Here is a discovery! The religious sentiments of all ages, past and present, and the nature of all religious establishments, that is, the religious establishment in Judea, and the religious establishment in England, and the religious establishment in France, before and since the revolution, and every other religious establishment, in whatever part of the world, have concurred in recommending the appropriate devotions of this day. What day? Why the day of general election in Massachusetts, to be sure. The sentence can have

no other possible meaning, and the discovery does infinite honour to the ingenuity of the reverend orator.

To Such is the truth, which is accepted from the words of the scribe of the Hebrews. p. 7.

Instead of *accepted*, he should have written *received*, or more forcibly still, *embraced* in the words, &c. The great scholar is reminded, that we do accept truth, as a child accepts an orange or a piece of gingerbread, or a young lady a present from her lover.

Speaking of the first settlers in our country, he says:

They possessed in ship-building the knowledge, which the French had communicated, and which a late English artist has rendered familiar to his countrymen. p. 12.

We rather suspect, that the great scholar is mistaken in supposing that the French at that period excelled in ship-building, nor do we know to what English artist he refers. Sir Walter Raleigh, many years before, had written a treatise on this art, which is still extant; nor was it long before the peace of 1763 that the French built any ships of superiour excellence. The *Courageux*, captured by the *Monmouth*, a short time previous to that peace, was the first evidence, which the English received of the superiority of French naval architecture.

We would willingly, for our own amusement, and for that of the publick, make more remarks on this performance, which the author courteously styles a sermon, did not its remaining obscurity set all further criticism at defiance. We would recommend it, however to the attention of all those ingenious ladies and gentle-

men, who are fond of riddles, enigmas, and conundrums, humbly acknowledging our utter inability to comprehend it, and firmly believing, notwithstanding the author is minister of the second church in Salem, that he will never be hanged for a witch.

ART. 39.

The Christian Monitor, No. IV., containing nine discourses on relative duties, and reasons for believing the truth of divine revelation. 12mo. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

IT is impossible for us to view with indifference any exertions of 'A society for the promotion of christian knowledge, piety, and charity.' As believers in the gospel, we ardently wish the success of every endeavour which is made to extend it; and heartily approving of the views and spirit, with which the Christian Monitor is conducted, we cordially recommend it to the pious, as well adapted for edification, and to the rich and liberal for distribution.

The fourth, fifth, and sixth of these discourses are selected from the sermons of Francklin, and the eighth and ninth from those of Riddoch. The rest were never before published. A prayer and a hymn is affixed to each discourse. In a very small compass is compressed a very clear and satisfactory view of the duties of aged men, and of aged women; of husbands, of wives, and of parents; of children to parents and to each other; of superiours, and of inferiours. It is the lowest praise of a work, expressly intended to aid the progress of piety and virtue, that it is written with elegance; and the pious author, who consecrates his labours to this best of

purposes, will derive no pleasure from such commendation, compared with that, which is excited by the tendency of his efforts to accomplish the good, which he designed. Yet he, who is deliberating to what he shall direct his attention, may feel the balance in his mind to be turned by this consideration; and such we would inform, that with a frequent glow of ardent piety, is united in these discourses a correctness and beauty, which will often gratify a fastidious taste.

We offer to our readers a single extract, by which they may form for themselves a judgment of the work.

The arguments against polygamy and concubinage conclude with greater force against adultery. Fidelity in marriage is so primary and important a duty, that a violation of it destroys at once both root and branch of domestic felicity. There is no prospect nor chance for matrimonial happiness, where either party is unfaithful to its vows. Infidelity in either man or woman, is probably the basest falsehood, the most inexcusable folly, and the blackest injustice that, in a christian community, can be committed. In this case the hymeneal bands become like flax, which the flame has scorched. To this fidelity, husbands, you are as strongly obliged as your wives. Though the consequences of their infidelity are more horrible to society, than those of similar wickedness in you, yet remember, that you make the same promises, which are obligatory on them. If you break these promises, in the view of God and good men your infidelity is as criminal as theirs, and is justly deserving of the same damnation: Are you a son? What would be your feelings if the husband of your mother should live in adultery! Are you a father? How would your indignation rise, if the man, to whose arms you consigned a virtuous and unoffending daughter, should wander from her bed! Such, in kind, but much sharper in degree, are the miseries, which you prepare for an innocent wife, when you are false to your vows. You wound her feelings.

You make her uncomfortable in herself, and an object of suspicion and reproach to the world. More: You are your own enemy. You take the direct method of alienating her affections from you, and yours from her, and thus of rendering yourself wretched. The love of your wife cannot alone make you happy; she also must possess yours. It is mutual kindness that softens the heart, and refines, sweetens, and blesses the relation. Let parents receive ever so much obedience and honour from their children, they must nevertheless themselves love their children to be happy in them. We cannot indeed be at ease in this world, unless the people with whom we associate, perform their duties to us; but our principal felicity will ever spring from the conscientious performance of our duties to them. If this remark is true with respect to other relations, it is especially so in regard to the married state. Were religion, therefore, out of the question, fidelity to your wife is your highest wisdom and best policy.

ART. 39.

The Duties of Children. A sermon, delivered on Lord's day, April 12, 1807, to the religious society in Federal-street, Boston. By William E. Channing, A.M. minister of said society. Boston, printed by Manning & Loring. June, 1807.

THE style and sentiments of this sermon bespeak the seriousness and experience of age, the faithfulness, the sincerity, and piety, of a genuine teacher of Jesus Christ. There is no parade, no ostentatious display of brilliancy. It comes clad in the meek simplicity which characterises the language of that holy book, which the weakest understandings may comprehend. Addressed to children, it is pure and nourishing as the milk from which they were lately weaned, as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion.

CATALOGUE
OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES,
For JUNE, 1807.

Sunt bona, sunt quædam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

Sermons on various subjects, by Joseph Lathrop, D.D. pastor of the First Church in West-Springfield 1 vol. 8vo. pp. 400. Price \$1,75 bound.—Springfield, Henry Brewer.

Vols. I. II. and III. of The Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, from November 28, 1780, to February 28, 1807. With the Constitutions of the United States of America and of the Commonwealth prefixed. To which is added, at the end of the 2d volume, an Appendix, containing acts and clauses of acts from the Laws of the late Colony, Province, and State of Massachusetts, which either are unrevised or respect the title of real estate. Published by order of the General Court. 8vo. Vol. I. pp. 520; II. 1073; III. 404. Price \$12 in law binding. Boston, Thomas & Andrews, and Manning & Loring. June, 1807. [Vols. I. and II. are new editions.]

Reports of Cases, decided in the Conference Court of North-Carolina. By Duncan Cameron and W. Norwood. 1 vol. \$5. Raleigh, J. Giles.

A Narrative of Col. Ethan Allen's Captivity, from the time of his being taken by the British, near Montreal, Sept. 25th, 1775, to the time of his exchange, May 6th, 1778; containing his voyages and travels, with the most remarkable occurrences respecting himself, and many other continental prisoners, of different ranks and characters, which fell under his observation in the course of the same; particularly the destruction of the prisoners at New York, by General Sir William Howe, in the years 1776-7; interspersed with some political observations. Written by himself, and now published for the information of the curious in all nations, &c. &c. Troy, N. Y. Wright, Goodenow, & Stockwell.

A short Review of the late Proceedings, at New-Orleans; and some Remarks upon the Bill for suspending the Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus; which passed the Senate of the United States during the last session of

Congress; in two Letters. By Agrestis. Charleston, S. C. Marchant, Willington, & Co.

Margaretta, or the Intricacies of the Heart, by a Lady of Philadelphia. \$1. Philadelphia, S. F. Bradford.

Fashion's Analysis, or the Winter in Town, a satirical poem, by Sir Anthony Avalanche, with notes, illustrations, &c. By Gregory Glacier, Gent. Part I.—75 cts. in boards. N. York, J. Osborn.

The Boston Directory, containing the names of the inhabitants, their occupations, places of business, and dwelling-houses; with lists of the streets, lanes, and wharves; the town-officers, public offices, and banks; of the stages, which run from Boston, with the times of their arrival and departure; and a general description of the town, illustrated by a plan, drawn from actual survey. Boston, Edward Cotton. June, 1807.

A Sermon, preached before the Convention of the Congregational Ministers, in Boston. May 28, 1807. By John Reed, D.D. pastor of the First Church and Congregational Society in Bridgewater. 8vo. pp. 40. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

A Sermon, preached April 15th, 1807, to the Scholars of Derby Academy, in Hingham: at a Lecture founded by Madam Derby. By Edward Richmond, minister of Stoughton. 8vo. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

The Duties of Children. A sermon, delivered on Lord's Day, April 12, 1807, to the Religious Society in Federal-Street, Boston. By William E. Channing, A.M. minister of said Society. Published at the request of the hearers. 12mo. Boston, Manning & Loring.

A Sermon, preached before the Massachusetts Missionary Society, at their annual meeting in Boston, May 26, 1807. By Elijah Parish, A. M. pastor of the Church in Byfield. 8vo. pp. 26. Newburyport, printed by E. W. Allen, and sold by Thomas & Whipple.

A Discourse, delivered before the Members of the Female Charitable Society of Newburyport, at their 4th

anniversary, May 20, 1807. By James Millimore, A. M. minister of the gospel in Stratham, New Hampshire. Published at the request of the managers, at whose invitation it was delivered.—8vo. Newburyport, Thomas & Whipple, publishers.

A Sermon, delivered before the Governor, the Honourable Council, and both branches of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the day of General Election, May 27, 1807. By William Bentley, A.M. minister of the Second Church in Salem. 8vo. pp. 28. Boston, Adams and Rhoades, printers to the State.

A Discourse, delivered before the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company, in Boston, June 1, 1807, being the anniversary of their Election of Officers. By Thomas Baldwin, D. D. pastor of the 2d Baptist church in Boston. 8vo. 25 cts. Boston, Munroe & Francis, 10 Courtstreet.

A Sermon on the death of the Hon. William Patterson, Esq. LL.D. one of the associate justices of the supreme court of the United States. By Joseph Clark, A.M. New-Brunswick, A. Blaueit. 1806.

A Sermon, delivered at Lebanon, in the south society, at the dedication of the new brick meeting house, Jan. 21, 1807. By William Lyman, A.M.—Hartford, Hudson & Goodwin.

A Sermon preached in Halifax, Vt. Sept. 17, 1806, at the installation of Rev. Thomas H. Wood, over the congregational church and society in that town. By Joseph Lyman, D.D. Northampton, Wm. Butler.

A view of the economy of the church of God, as it existed primitively, under the Abrahamick dispensation, and the Sinai law; and as it is perpetuated under the more luminous dispensation of the gospel; particularly in regard to the covenants. By Samuel Austin, A.M. minister of the gospel in Worcester. Worcester, Thomas & Sturtevant.

Universal Salvation a very ancient doctrine, with some account of the life and character of its author; a sermon delivered at Rutland, west parish, 1803. By Emanuel Haynes, A.M. Sixth edition. Boston, D. Carlisle. 1807.

NEW EDITIONS.

Essays, in a Series of Letters to a Friend. By John Foster. First Amer-

ican, from the 3d London edition. 2 volumes in 1. 12mo. Price 1\$ bound. Hartford, Lincoln & Gleason.

Vol. IV. Part II. of the New Cyclopædia, or Dictionary of Arts and Sciences. By Abraham Rees. 4to. Philadelphia, S. F. Bradford; L. Blake, agent in Boston.

Volume III. of The Works of the Right Honourable Edmund Burke.—8vo. Boston, John West, 76 Cornhill, and Oliver Cromwell Greenleaf, 3 Courtsreet.

Number III. of the second Boston edition of Shakespeare's Plays. Containing Merchant of Venice, and As You Like It, with notes by Johnson, &c. 13mo. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

A Supplement to the Life of Richard Cumberland; written by himself.—12mo. pp. 40. Boston, David West, John West, and O. C. Greenleaf.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

The Life of George Washington, commander in chief of the armies of the United States of America, throughout the war which established their independence, and first president of the United States. By David Ramsay, M. D., author of The History of the American Revolution. 1 vol. 8vo. pp. 400. Ornamented with an engraved Head of Washington. Price to subscribers, in boards, \$2.50. Providence, Rhode-Island, E. S. Thomas.

The 2d edition of "A new system of Domestic Cookery," &c. by a Lady. 12mo. Boston, Andrews & Cummings, and L. Blake.

Boswell's Life of Johnson, vols. I. and II. 8vo. Boston, Andrews & Cummings, and L. Blake.

Burke's Works, vol. IV. Boston, J. West, and O. C. Greenleaf.

My Pocket-Book; or, Hints for a "Bright Merrie and Conceited" Tour, in Quarto.—To be called "The Stranger in Ireland," in 1805. By a Knight Errant. New-York, Ezra Sargeant.

Spelling Dictionary. By Mrs. Hannah Rowson. 12mo. Boston, D. Carlisle, for John West.

Stanford's Grammar. 12mo. D. Carlisle, for J. West.

St. Clare, a novel, by Miss Owenson, Philadelphia, S. F. Bradford.

Telemachus, in French and English, and in English: Hawney's Mensuration. Philadelphia, Mathew Carey.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

T. S. Manning, of Philadelphia, proposes to publish by subscription in two vols. 12mo. price \$2, the *Novice of St. Dominick*, by Miss Owenson:

Adam's Roman Antiquities, 1 large vol. 8vo. 640 pages, \$3. To be published in the fall, by Mathew Carey, Philadelphia.

A volume of *Sermons* on important subjects: by the late Rev. and pious Samuel Davies, A.M. some time President of New-Jersey College. This is an additional volume, collected from the author's manuscripts, never published in America. To comprise 450 pages 8vo. \$1.75 to subscribers. Northampton, S. & E. Butler. 1807.

Messrs. Andrews & Cummings, and Lemmel Blake, of this town, propose to reprint by subscription, *A Dissertation on the Prophecies, that have been fulfilled, are now fulfilling, or may hereafter be fulfilled, relative to the great period of 1260 years; the Papal and Mohammedan apostates; the tyrannical reign of Antichrist, or the infidel power; and the restoration of the Jews.* By the Rev. George Stanley Faber, B. D. vicar, of Stockton-upon-Tees. In one 8vo. volume, containing upwards of 600 pages, at \$2.25, boards.

Mr. Horatio G. Spafford, of Hudson, N. Y. is preparing for the press, a very useful school book, entitled '*Universal Geography, and rudiments of useful knowledge, (in a pocket volume) containing a short but comprehensive system of geography, in its several parts; together with a brief survey of the principles of natural philosophy.*' The work is divided into twelve sections, arranged under general heads.

A literary gentleman, from the University of Cambridge, Eng. who arrived at Philadelphia in the autumn of last

year, is employed in writing a work, which he entitles '*The Stranger in America.*' to be comprised in 4 vols. 12mo. The first volume contains his observations in and near Philadelphia, during a residence of six months. The other three volumes will consist of views of society and manners in the United States, in the year 1807. Each volume will be embellished with appropriate vignette, sketches of public buildings, &c. We understand that the first volume is already forwarded to England for immediate publication, and it will be published in Philadelphia about the month of September next.

Proposals have been issued for publishing '*The Speeches of His Excellency Caleb Strong, Esq. to the Senate and House of Representatives of Massachusetts, with their Answers and other official publick papers of His Excellency, from 1800 to 1807.*' It is intended this work shall contain between 2 and 300 pages 12mo. ornamented with an accurate, engraved likeness of Mr. Strong, executed by Mr. W. Hooker, of Newburyport. The price of the volume will be \$1 in boards.

Messrs. Lothian and Beals, of this town, are printing '*A Sketch of the Christian Denominations,*' by John Evans, A. M. The first Boston, from the 9th London edition. This work is to be in one 12mo. volume, containing 300 pages, and embellished with an engraving, price \$1.12 in extra boards.

Proposals have been issued in Ohio for publishing, in one vol. royal duodecimo, the long and interesting Trial of Charles Vattier, lately convicted of Burglary and Larceny, by stealing at various times, from the receiver of publick monies for the district of Cincinnati, large sums to the amount of many thousands of dollars, chiefly belonging to the United States.

FOREIGN LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

GREAT-BRITAIN.

STEREOTYPE Printing has not been adopted by the booksellers of London, because it does not appear that more than twenty or thirty works would warrant the expense of being cast in solid pages; consequently the cost of the preliminary arrangements would greatly exceed the advantages to be attained. On a calculation, it has appeared

to be less expensive to keep certain works standing in moveable types, in which successive editions can be improved to any degree, than to provide the means for casting the same works in solid pages, which afterwards admits of little or no revision. As the extra expense of stereotyping is in all works equal to the expense of paper for 750 copies, it is obvious that this art is

not applicable to new books, the sale of which cannot be ascertained. Although these considerations have induced the publishers of London not to prefer this art in their respective businesses, yet it has been adopted by the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford; and from the former some very beautiful editions of Common Prayer books have been issued to the publick; probably the art of stereotyping applies with greater advantage to staple works of such great and constant sale, as prayer books and bibles, than to any other.

The improvements introduced by Lord Stanhope, in the construction of printing-presses, have been applied to the greater part of the working presses of the metropolis. Other improvements have lately been developed in the art of printing, the introduction of which into practice we shall gladly announce; one of them relates to a more simple method of working presses, by which the number of pressmen would be considerably diminished; and the other to a superior method of casting types.

The Memoirs of John Lord de Joinville, Grand Seneschal of Champagne, written by himself, and translated by Thomas Johnes, of Hafod, esq. M. P. are on the eve of publication. They contain a history of part of the life of Louis IX. King of France, surnamed St. Louis, whose contemporary and friend Joinville was, as well as his comrade in all his wars. An account of that King's expedition to Egypt in the year 1248, is included in these volumes. They contain many historical facts not noticed by any other historians, and exhibit an interesting picture of the times to which they refer. Mr. Johnes has added the notes and dissertations of M. Ducange; together with the dissertations of M. Le Baron de la Baslie on the Life of St. Louis, and of M. L'Evêque la Raviere, and M. Falconet, on the Assassins of Syria, from the "Memoirs de l'Académie de Belles Lettres et Inscriptions de France." Our readers will recollect that this

is the second of the old French historians which has been submitted to the Hafod press in an English translation.

Mr. Johnes has also just finished *The Travels of the Lord de la Broquiere, Esquire, Carver to Philippe le Bon, who returned from Jerusalem to France overland, about the year 1345, and reduced the account of his journey to writing, by command of the Duke, his master.* This author, little known to the general reader, treats his subject with that naiveté so characteristic of the period to which this indefatigable translator has devoted his labours.

The *Chronicles of Monstrelet*, who took up his history from the year 1400, where that of Froissart ended, and brought it down to 1467, will be the next work in the series, ranging after Froissart, and forming a necessary continuation of those interesting and popular chronicles. Monstrelet gives a copious and authentic account of the civil wars between the houses of Orleans and Burgundy, the occupation of Paris and Normandy by the English, the expulsion of the latter, and other memorable events both in France and other countries. We understand that the translation of the first volume is finished, and that by great good fortune it has escaped that calamity which happened at Hafod, on Friday the 13th of March. For it will be read with very painful feelings, not only by those who have been in the habit of participating in the classical hospitalities of the place, but by all who have been drawn as strangers to explore a country which owes its redemption from wildness and from waste to the publick spirited proprietor of Hafod, and even by those who have only read the description of its beauties in the various tours of Wales, that this noble mansion has just been destroyed by fire. The misfortune is too recent for any very minute particulars to have reached the metropolis. But we much fear that the mischief is most extensive, and, in many instances, irreparable, though not, extending to the loss of life.

The books in the lower part of the library are many of them, we will hope all, saved; but the gallery was inaccessible, from the circumstance of the fire breaking out above stairs, and close by it, and in that gallery were some of the most rare books in that curious and extensive collection. A complete series of all the romances mentioned by Don Quixotte, as composing his library, are probably in the number of the irreparable losses. The pictures are many of them, saved, but the invaluable painted glass in the anti-library must necessarily have been destroyed. Mr. Johnes was in London, in obedience to the call of the House, at the time of the accident. On receiving the intelligence he immediately hastened to his family, who had been obliged to remove to the inn at Devil's Bridge. Buoyed up with thankfulness for their providential preservations, he left town, bearing, though feeling his calamity, like a man.

With that enthusiasm which has led him to devote his life and fortune to the creation of a paradise out of a wilderness, he means still to inhabit his Eden in spite of this flaming minister, and still to divide his rural leisures between agricultural improvements and literary labours. Men in general would think it late in life to set to work a second time; but we still hope to see a Phoenix rise from the ashes, and to announce Monstrelet and Comines from the same press which has already produced Froissart, Joinville, and le Brocquiere. By way of sequel to Comines, and to complete the series, Mr. Johnes proposes concluding with the Memoirs of Oliver de la Marche, which are very entertaining, and furnish many curious facts. Other private memoirs of those times will be interspersed, to serve as illustrations.

We have to announce to the admirers of fine books, that two magnificent editions of Gil Blas are in preparation, the one in the original French, the other in English, both under the superintendance of Mr.

Malkin, author of the *Scenery, Antiquities, and Biography of South Wales*, and several other works, who has undertaken to supply the deficiencies of the English edition, under the name of Smollet, by an entirely new translation. Should this be executed with spirit and fidelity, it will furnish what has so long been wanted, an appropriate English dress for the best novel which was ever written. These two editions are to be printed uniformly, in the best manner. They will be illustrated with plates, executed by the first engravers, from pictures painted by that admirable delineator of life and manners, Robert Smirke, Esq. R. A. In such hands it may be presumed that this work will rival the most elegant productions of the press, in an age when the arts of printing and engraving are carried to so great a degree of perfection.

A very interesting work, by a member of the University of Oxford, will speedily appear in three volumes, under the title of 'Oxoniana,' consisting of anecdotes and facts relative to the colleges, libraries, and establishments of Oxford; with extracts from, and accounts of, the curious unpublished manuscripts with which that university abounds; accounts of celebrated members, professors, &c. so as to comprise a history of the rise and progress of that ancient seat of learning.

Dr. Charles Fothergill is now engaged in preparing a work for the press, which can scarcely fail to excite very general interest. With a view of clearing up some doubtful points in the Zoology of Great-Britain, he last spring made a voyage to all the northern isles, comprehending the Orcades, Shetland, Fair Isle, and Fulda, and remained amongst them during the greatest part of the year, employed in the investigation of their natural history, antiquities, state of their agriculture and fisheries, political importance, manners, customs, condition, past and present state, &c. &c.; a general and particular ac-

count of which will shortly be given to the publick, accompanied by maps and numerous engravings; containing the fullest and completest description that has yet been published of those remote and hitherto neglected regions.

Thonwaldson, a Swedish sculptor, is engaged at Rome upon a colossal statue of Liberty, for the United States of America, to be erected at Washington.

The Rev. Thomas Kidd, of Trinity College, Cambridge, proposes to publish a new edition of the Iliad and Odyssey; of which, in the Iliad, the Townleian Codex, aided by the Marcian MSS. and a faithful collation of the Harlein copies, will form the ground-work. It is intended, at present, to insert the Digamma in the text, on the authority of the great Bentley, whose unpublished papers upon the Iliad and Odyssey will, through the kind permission of Trinity College, Cambridge, contribute to enhance the value of this edition. The body of variations from the Vienna, Breslaw, and Moschow MSS. as published by Professors Alter & Heyne, as well as those gleaned by a re-examination of the MSS. consulted by Barnes, will be classed according to their respective merits under the text, and incorporated with an accurate collation of the first, second Aldine, first Stratzburgh, and Roman editions; the peculiarities also of the venerable document dispersed through H. Steph. Thesaurus Ling. Gr. will be specified in their proper places. The text of the Iliad, with the variations, will be given in two volumes, octavo. A supplement to the Villoisonian Scholia, from the Townleian and Harlein translations, with short notes, shall form the third volume; and a fourth volume will contain the text to the Odyssey, with various lections, to be introduced by fac-similes of the characters and descriptions of the respective MSS. engaged in the service of the text; to which will succeed a small volume of Scholia, chiefly from MSS. with short notes, a dissertation upon the genuineness of Od. α , a collation of the pp. of Ed. Rom. and Bas.

of Eustathius, with the omissions of the latter: and application of the Digamma to the remains of Hesiod.

The Works of Sallust, translated by the late Arthur Murphy, Esq. are about to be re-published.

SWEDEN.

Some years ago, several Swedish naturalists formed a society for the purpose of giving a complete account of the Botany of their native country. Forty-six numbers of this work have already appeared, each containing a coloured engraving, of four or five plants, with their names in the principal languages of Europe, and a short and luminous description, in Swedish. The editors of this work have begun another work on the same plan, relative to the Zoology of Sweden, of which the first number has already appeared. Mr. Wertring has lately published a very curious work on Lichens; in which he gives an exact description of each species, and indicates its use in medicine and domestick œconomy, and particularly the mode of extracting colours from them, for the purpose of dying silk and wool. The plates accompanying this work, which does honour to Sweden, represents, 1st. The mosses of the class of Lichens, engraved and coloured, after nature; and 2d. the various colour which they communicate to cloth in the process of dying.

GERMANY.

The system of Gall is now ridiculed throughout Germany, and he was unable to procure an auditory at any of the places where he lately attempted to deliver lectures.

The memory of Luther never received so many honours as during the last year. Besides the grand drama, of which he is the hero, and which has been acted with prodigious success on the royal theatre at Berlin, M. Klingemann brought upon the stage of Magdeburg, a tragedy entitled 'Martin Luther.'

ERRATA.—In a few impressions of the Observations on the Picture of Boston, the following errors escaped. Page 292, col. 2, line 2 from bottom for *collection*, read *collective*. Page 293, col. 2, l. 16 from bot. for *among* r. *many*. Page 294, l. 21, for *has* r. *have*. Col. 2, 9 lines from bottom for *those* read *these*.

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,

FOR

JULY, 1807.

For the Anthology.

CLASSICAL LITERATURE.

THE Poets of Antiquity deemed it as necessary to the completion of the military character of their heroes that they should visit the infernal regions before death, as it is in our day for a man to make the tour of Europe to perfect the character of a gentleman. During the present alarming convulsions of that unhappy country the traveller will find the same objects in France, that Virgil found elsewhere, and without practical embellishment.

‘Vestibulum ante ipsum, primisque in
faucibus Orci,

*Luctus et ultrices posuere cubilia Curae ;
Pallentesque habitant Morbi, tristisque Senectus,*

Et Metus, et malesuada Fames, ac turpis Egestas,

*Terribiles visu formæ ; Letumque,
Laborque ;*

Tum consanguineus Leti Sopor, et mala mentis

Gaudia, mortiferumque adverso in limine Bellum,

Ferreique Eumenidum thalami, et Discordia demens,

Viperæum crinem vitæ innoxæ cruentis.’

This vision, heretofore the subject of comment, may fairly be called the ‘*crux criticorum.*’ Names, the most eminent in English literature, have been enlisted in the contest, amongst whom bishop Warburton and Mr. Gibbon stand forth the most conspicuous. It is amusing to observe how wonderfully professional habit tinctures

all our ideas with its own peculiar hues. Bishop Warburton made it a point of honour to find Divinity in all his studies and pursuits, and constantly resorted to imagination to supply the deficiency of fact. This diver after evangelical heart deposited with his own hands the precious substance in the shell, and then ostentatiously displayed it to the world, as a discovery of his own. Virgil contained divinity, Shakespeare likewise ; and had he written comments on Don Quixotte, the helmet of Membrino would have contained divinity. As the bishop could not, with any shadow of reason, find christianity in the page of Virgil, and as religion was to be found at every hazard, he was reduced to the melancholy alternative of substituting the pagan mythology, or of abandoning his project. Mr. Gibbon, who, I shrewdly suspect, was more solicitous to laugh at the piety of the prelate, than to detect his literary sins, espoused the other side of the question. The eloquent historian however, while he so triumphantly exposes prelatical error, surrenders the last passage in the vision as indefensible, without a blow. “The final dismissal of the ivory gate, where ‘*falsa ad cælum mittant insomnia manés,*’ seems to dissolve the whole enchantment, and leaves the reader in a state of cold and anxious

skepticism." The passage of which this line forms an integral part, is probably the one that has given rise to all the controversy; and Mr. Gibbon, by demolishing the bishop's edifice, and not building any himself, nor suffering that of Virgil to stand, can scarcely be ranked amongst the defenders of the bard. A very able European critic of the present day endeavours to protect the part by an allegorical shield, and at the same time candidly admits that "no one can divine the beginning or the end of the allegory."

'Non bene relicta parmula'.....
 'Sunt geminæ somni portæ; quarum
 altera fertur
 Cornea, quâ veris facilis datur exitus
 umbris:
 Altera, candenti perfecta nitens ele-
 phanto;
 Sed falsa ad cælum mittant insomnia
 Manes.
 His ubi tura natum Anchises unaque
 Sibyllam
 Prosequitur dictis portaque emittit
 eburnâ.'

Here, the assailants of Virgil exclaim, is an explicit declaration by the poet, that all the Elysian revelation was a falsehood! On the other hand, the defenders of the bard assert, that it never could have been the intention of the poet first to flatter his monarch, and then, with deliberate solemnity, declare the whole a falsehood to his face. This curious compliment, with so poisonous a sting in its tail, would not have appeared so lovely in the keen and suspicious eye of Augustus, and his nature as Octavius can witness, was not so mild and placid, but what the sum offered as the reward of the poet's labours would in that instance have been the price of his head.

A commentator, who annexes to his author his own arbitrary

meanings, imputes to him sentiments and opinions which his words will not bear, and makes him responsible for blunders that he never committed. Because popular credulity recoils from the belief of ancient fables, are we warranted in thus turning them inside outwards? Ask but one plain question, what is the moral which this allegory professes to enforce? and all confess to a man, that it is beyond their comprehension to tell. We enter with Æneas the world of shadows, and are shaken by a variety of passions; yet those passions do not rally round one object. The mind from an allegory receives a double delight; first, in beholding the phantom acting with the propriety of an human being; and secondly, in its demolition, by observing its similitude to the moral truth it was destined to represent. The laborious commentators, after all their researches confess, that this moral truth they are unable to find, and are thus reduced to the necessity of acknowledging, either that Virgil did not know how to compose an allegory, or they how to understand him, if he did. Further, there is a manifest impropriety in making real personages the objects of allegorical illustration, personages who cannot, by any possibility of construction, lose their identity for a moment. Yet this has Virgil done; in parts of this vision history itself is not more faithful in its narrative, than he is. Instead of those shadowy beings, whom allegory delights in, that dissipate on discovery, we have here solid flesh and bone to encounter, that bar all discovery whatever. The only part of this adventure of Æneas, susceptible of allegorical interpretation, is where the Sybil writes the responses of her taste-

lar deity upon leaves, and has no other commentator than *Æolus* to expound them. The commentators of *Virgil*, out of reverence to their blustering deity, seem disposed to adopt his mode of explanation. Suppose that *Virgil* himself should for once answer his commentators; he has expressly told us, that through this ivory gate 'falsa ad cœlum mittant *insonnia* manes.' Now is it pretended that the Trojan hero, after his escape from the subterranean regions through that obnoxious passage, left his body behind him, and evaporated into a dream? So long as a living body assumes this liberty, the words of *Virgil* have no kind of application. Only allow to *Æneas* the fair privileges of humanity...his just quota of the flesh and bone he inherited from his parents, and he might venture to pass through the ivory gate with perfect safety to his own character and the poet's. It is cordially agreed, that if by an allegorical process he is turned into a dream, his reputation will suffer sadly in the wreck of his humanity. Some criticks, in pursuance of their laudable resolution of convicting *Virgil* of an egregious blunder at all events, roundly assert that the whole of this vision was designed by the poet as a dream. *This* is really the saturnine trifling of literary dulness. That the Trojan hero should undergo so much preparatory labour and anxiety, embark in a perilous voyage to a distant country in search of a dream, when he had only to shut his eyes to find it, is a construction abundantly refuted by a plain statement of the fact.

The misery of the modern interpretation of the ancients is an overweening anxiety to find in their pages something beyond the

plain import of their words. Shocked as they are, by the advancement of such absurd legends with all the gravity of truth, they endeavour to modernize the fables into allegories by every mode, that a tortuous ingenuity can invent. Hence every celebrated ancient is beset by a number of commentators, who libel him in the shape of panegyrics. The poets themselves in all human probability did not believe in the reality of those fables, with which their pages abound. They were men of large and extended minds, deeply versed in the researches of philosophy, studies peculiarly hostile to the admission of such vulgar absurdities. Nevertheless, the marvellous was what they wanted, and surely those fables, rendered venerable by the long acquaintance of mankind, were better fitted 'ad captandum vulgus,' than the coinage of their own brains. The populace, when they found such fables receiving the acquiescence of men, whose opinions they regarded with the infallibility of oracles, read their pages with enthusiasm; and it is not an improbable conjecture, that this very circumstance redeemed the pages of *Homer* and *Virgil* from the deprivations of time and accident! If this be true, every admirer of ancient literature will not feel himself disposed to censure with much asperity the artifice, which the poets have adopted, for rendering the superstition of their times subsidiary to their personal benefit. It is the duty of a publick writer to understand the state of the publick mind, before he presumes to undertake its regulation. Bold and novel truths dazzle, but the blaze is intolerable to an eye unprepared by the slow and gradual advancement of the tapers.

Modern commentators, therefore, manifest but an equivocal kindness to the ancients, when they endeavour to press their fables into the service of allegories. When they stand as plain naked tales, they give us more accurate conceptions, and more just ideas of the manners of antiquity, than can possibly be done by allegorical interpretation. The philosopher may be amused by observing the retreat of those inhospitable phantoms; for many of the fables, which Virgil mentions with all the solemnity of fact, are sneered at in the pages of Juvenal. The christian derives a new argument in support of the indispensable necessity of the religion he professes, when he reads of the horrible vices patronized and adopted by the polytheism of the ancients.

Virgil, when he borrowed so liberally from Homer, did not always observe in so doing the identity of characters, to whom those passages were to be applied. It suited perfectly well with the ferocious and inexorable nature of Achilles to sacrifice twelve Trojan

captives to the manes of his beloved Patroclus. Virgil, not considering the humanity of his hero in the hurry of transcription, appropriates this passage to Æneas, and omitted to express the abhorrence which Homer, in his delineation of Achilles, deemed it his duty to express. The pious Trojan sacrifices eight Rutilians at the tomb of Pallas, with as much indifference, as he would have slain so many sheep on the altar. In like manner the passage now in question, that has been the occasion of so much controversy, the horn gate for the admission of true dreams, and the ivory gate for the admission of false ones, is taken from Homer's *Odyssey*. Homer sends a dream, and Virgil a living body, through the same obnoxious passage; but before I can reconcile my mind to the belief, that Virgil meant to convey a sarcasm on Augustus, I must be convinced that he himself was weary of life, and wished to visit, in proper person, that country which he had destined for his hero. R.

From the London Monthly Magazine, May, 1807.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE LONDON INSTITUTION.

THE chief purposes of the London Institution are, the speedy and general diffusion of science, literature, and the arts, by means of lectures and experiments, and teaching the application of scientific discoveries to the improvement of arts and manufactures in Great-Britain; the acquisition of a valuable and extensive library, consisting of books in all languages both ancient and modern, and giving an easy access to the use of it; and the establishment of reading-

rooms, where the foreign and domestick journals, newspapers, and other periodical works, and the best pamphlets and new publications, may be provided for the use of the proprietors and subscribers.

In the execution of this plan, the principal gentlemen and merchants of the metropolis, to the number of one thousand, subscribed the sum of seventy-five guineas each, towards forming the necessary funds; and appointed a committee to prepare a set of by-

laws for the government of the Institution.

As these by-laws explain the nature of this establishment in detail, it will be necessary to give them in a classified form, in order that they may be more easily understood by those persons who may have it in contemplation to establish similar institutions in the large and populous cities, and manufacturing towns of the United Kingdoms.

It may be necessary to premise that the London Institution is a body, politick and corporate, being so created by royal charter, granted to the managers and proprietors in January, 1807.

Of the Direction and Administration of the Institution.

All the affairs of the Institution are directed and administered by a committee of managers, consisting of the president, four vice-presidents, twenty managers, and the secretary, chosen by and from among the proprietors. One fourth of the presidents and managers annually vacate their office, but are eligible to be re-elected to other offices of the institution.

Of the Proprietors.

The number of proprietors is limited to one thousand, and the whole property of the Institution is vested solely in that body, who have complete authority to control and dispose of the same, and no sale or mortgage of any real property belonging to the Institution, or of any stock of money permanently invested, can be made, but with the approbation and concurrence of a general meeting of proprietors convened for that express purpose.

Every candidate for election as a proprietor must be proposed by a manager at one of their meetings, and his name is then hung

up in the manager's room, and at the next meeting he is balloted for: No person can be elected unless two-thirds, at least, of the managers are in favour of his admission.

There is a general meeting of proprietors annually, on the last Thursday in April, for the purpose of electing the officers of the Institution, and receiving the report of the managers, containing a general statement of the matters with which it may be necessary the proprietors should be acquainted, in order that they may form an opinion of the actual state of the Institution, in respect to its pecuniary concerns, and the accomplishment of its objects.

The minutes of the transactions at every general meeting of the proprietors are entered in a book by the secretary, and read over at the next meeting for approbation as to their correct entry, and after being approved are signed by the president, or in his absence by the chairman.

Previously to the general meeting in April, printed alphabetical lists of the proprietors, and the names of the professors, lectures, &c. are to be provided at the house of the Institution.

The votes of the proprietors for the election of the offices of the Institution are always given by ballot; and all business brought forward at any general meeting of proprietors, is decided by a majority of members present, unless a ballot be required on any specific question, by fifteen or more of the proprietors present, which ballot must take place on one of the five ensuing days after such general meeting.

No new law, alteration, or repeal of any existing law, can originate in a general meeting of proprietors, unless after special notice

to the secretary in writing, by fifteen proprietors or upwards, at least fourteen days previously to such general meeting; nor can any new law, alteration, or repeal, be proposed by the managers to the proprietors, unless approved by two-thirds of the managers present at a meeting to be summoned for that special purpose.

If, at a meeting of proprietors, any question should arise during the course of an election, respecting the forms thereof, such question shall be decided by a majority of proprietors present.

Of Life and Annual Subscribers.

Every candidate for election, as a life or annual subscriber, must be proposed at a meeting of the managers, and his name entered in the list of candidates, and at the next meeting of the managers the question of admission shall be decided on.

Subscribers to particular courses of lectures, or to the library, shall be admitted thereto, upon the terms from time to time fixed by the managers.

Ladies are admissible as subscribers to the lectures only, under such regulations as may be fixed by the managers.

Rights and Privileges of the Proprietors and Subscribers.

The proprietors, life and annual subscribers, and honorary members, have right of admission to the library, lectures, reading-rooms, and all other publick parts of the house of the institution, at all hours from eight o'clock in the morning until eleven at night, Sundays, Christmas day, Good Friday, and Fast and Thanksgiving days by proclamation, excepted; and on Saturdays the doors close at three o'clock.

The proprietors have each one transferable ticket, which admits

the bearer to the library, the reading-rooms, and lectures.

Of the Mode of Proceeding at Elections.

The president, one vice-president, five managers, three visitors, the auditors, treasurer, and secretary of the Institution, are elected annually by the proprietors at the general meeting in April.

On the day of the annual election, after the president or chairman shall have taken the chair, and a balloting glass being placed on the table, two scrutineers are to be appointed to examine and declare the result of the ballot.

A complete list of all proprietors who may have signified their intention to the managers to become candidates for any office, and also balloting lists, containing the names of those persons recommended by the managers and visitors, for such office, are to be prepared and ready for delivery to each proprietor, at least eight days before the annual election.

Every proprietor who votes at an election is to deliver his balloting list, folded up, to the president or chairman, who, in his presence, is immediately to put it into the balloting glass, and the name of each proprietor, who so delivers in his list, shall be marked on a printed list by the secretary or clerk of the Institution.

When the ballot is closed, the scrutineers are to cast up the number of votes for each person, and report the same in writing, signed by them, to the chair, when the president or chairman will declare those who have the majority of votes to be the persons elected to the respective offices.

If the number of votes, in favour of two or more candidates, should be equal, the president or chair-

man is to decide by lots prepared by the scrutineers.

Of the Duties and Authority of the Managers.

The managers are to engage suitable persons as professors and lecturers, and cause courses of lectures in experimental philosophy, and on chemistry, and on different departments of literature and the arts, to be given annually or oftener at the Institution.

They are to take care that no subjects be treated of, at the lectures, but such as are connected with the objects of the Institution.

They are authorised, under certain restrictions, to elect and admit proprietors, life and annual subscribers, and also to elect honorary members of the Institution.

They are to elect and appoint, either annually or otherwise, the assistant secretaries, professors, lecturers, librarians, and other officers, and remove them when they see cause; and engage and dismiss the domestick servants of the house.

They have the direction of the house of the Institution, and make such regulations for the preservation of order and decorum therein as they may think proper.

They are to cause fair and accurate accounts and registers, in writing, to be kept of all receipts, payment, and transactions, by them, their officers, and agents respectively, and annually make up the same to the 31st of December in every year, and lay them, with the vouchers, before the auditors on or before the 25th of March following.

They have power to admit to the lectures, and to the library, and the other rooms of the Institution, foreigners of high rank, or of distinguished scientific acquirements, during their temporary residence in the metropolis.

Their meetings are to be held in the house of the Institution on the first Wednesday in every month, and no meetings are competent to the transaction of business, unless three or more members be present.

The president, or two vice-presidents, or any three managers, may, by requisition in writing to the secretary, call a special meeting of managers. The president presides at all meetings of the managers, and in case of his absence, one of the vice-presidents, and if neither be present one of the managers. When the votes at any meeting of the managers shall be equal, the president or chairman shall have the casting vote.

The Visitors.

A committee of visitors, consisting of the president and twelve visitors, such visitors not being members of the committee of managers, shall be chosen from among the proprietors at the general meeting on the last Thursday in April, three of whom shall annually vacate their office, but do not thereby become ineligible to the same, or to any other office of the Institution.

The visitors have authority to inspect, at all times, every department of the Institution, and they make their reports, either to the managers, or to the court of proprietors, as they may prefer.

Any five of the visitors may convene a general meeting of proprietors, giving eight days notice thereof to the managers.

The visitors meet quarterly in the house of the Institution, and no meeting is competent to the transaction of business, unless three or more members shall be present.

Special meetings of the visitors may be held, as often as any three

of the visitors, or managers, shall express in writing to the president their request that such meeting shall be called.

Whenever a special meeting of the visitors shall be called, the object of such meeting shall be mentioned in the notice, which is to be sent to each member, at least eight days previously to the meeting.

The visitors elect their own secretary, and may make such regulations respecting the mode of transacting their business, as they shall think necessary or useful, provided such regulations are not repugnant to the charter, nor to the by-laws of the Institution.

Of the Treasurer.

The treasurer is elected annually at the general meeting in April, by and from among the proprietors. His appointment is honorary.

All monies belonging to the Institution shall remain in the hands of the bankers appointed by the managers; and all receipts and payments shall be entered in the banker's book, under the direction of the treasurer, which book is to be laid on the manager's table at all their meetings.

The treasurer shall order payment of such drafts as shall be made on him by the managers, as also of such bills and other disbursements, as they shall specially direct to be paid by him.

He shall enter into a bond with two approved sureties, in the sum of 5000*l.* on condition that he duly account and pay all such money or other property and effects belonging to the Institution, as shall come into his possession as treasurer.

He shall make up his accounts to the 31st of December in every year, and lay them before the man-

agers, in order to their being prepared for the inspection of the auditors.

Of the Secretary.

The secretary is elected annually by and from among the proprietors. He is a member of the committee of managers, and his appointment is honorary.

He attends the general meetings of the proprietors and the meetings of the managers; and shall enter in a book, for that purpose, the minutes of the proceedings of those meetings; give instructions to the secretary of foreign correspondence, and directions to the assistant secretaries and clerks, in every thing relating to the business of his office, and see that due notice is given by the clerk of the general meetings of the proprietors, and of the meetings of the managers.

Of the Auditors.

At the general meeting in April, five auditors shall be appointed by and from among the proprietors, who shall examine the accounts of the Institution, which shall be made up to the 31st of December following, and shall report thereon, with a general statement of the accounts signed by the major part of them, to the general meeting in the succeeding April; and their report shall be printed and ready for delivery at the house of the Institution, eight days previously to such meeting.

Of Honorary Members.

Persons of distinguished rank or qualifications, whether natives or foreigners, may be elected honorary members of the Institution.

Persons proposed as honorary members, must be recommended by three at least of the managers, and be proposed and balloted for, with the interval of one month at least, between the proposal and

ballot, and two negatives shall exclude.

Of Receipts and Expenditures.

A sufficient sum shall be invested in the publick funds, as a provision for the permanency and stability of the Institution.

All monies not permanently invested, and not wanted for defraying the current expenses of the Institution, shall, from time to time, be invested by the managers in floating publick securities.

The annual income of the Institution shall be applied by the managers in discharging rents, taxes, salaries, wages, repairs, the purchase of foreign and domestick journals, periodical and other new publications, for the use of the reading-room.

The surplus income shall be applied, at the discretion of the managers, to the improvement and augmentation of the library, and apparatus for philosophical experiments.

Of Sub-Committees.

The managers have power to appoint as many committees as they shall think proper for the purpose of scientifick and experimental investigations, and to admit into such committees any persons, whether proprietors, subscribers, or not, and to allow such committees to hold their meetings in the house of the Institution.

The president, the managers, visitors, and secretary, have a right to attend all such committees whenever they think proper.

These committees are occasionally to report their progress to the managers.

Of the Transfer and Devise of Proprietors' Shares.

Any proprietor desirous of transferring his right in the Institution, shall notify the same in writing to the managers, stating the name

and residence of the person to whom he is desirous of transferring the same, and such person (unless he be the legitimate son of such proprietor, in which case he may be admitted without delay) shall be balloted for at the next meeting of managers; and if such person should not be approved by two-thirds of the managers present, the proprietor shall be entitled, at his option, to propose another person for admission, or to claim from the funds of the Institution such sum as may then be fixed in the By-laws as the qualification of a proprietor.

On the decease of a proprietor, his executors or administrators may nominate such person as is appointed in the will of the said deceased proprietor, or in default of such appointment, or in case of the decease of the person so appointed, such other person as they may think proper, to be balloted for by the managers (excepting the legitimate son of such deceased proprietor, who is entitled to admission without ballot) and such nomination shall be referred by the managers to the solicitor of the Institution to examine into its legal propriety, who, on making a written report to the managers, shall receive one guinea as his fee, from the proprietor on his admission; and in case such person, reported by the solicitor as legally nominated, shall not be elected, the executors or administrators of such deceased proprietor shall, at their option, either propose another person for admission, or claim, from the fund of the Institution, such sum as may then be fixed in the By-laws as the qualification of a proprietor.

The Library.

The library is open from eight o'clock in the morning till eleven

at night, with the exceptions as before stated.

The books belonging to the library are under the care and custody of the librarian.

No person shall take down any of the books in the library, but a note containing the name of the person applying, and the title of the book, must be given to the librarian or the attendant, who will supply him with the book required.

No person shall take away any book belonging to the library.

A manuscript catalogue of the library is kept on the table.

Of the House of the Institution.

The temporary house of the institution, till the managers can procure a larger and more convenient one, is in the Old Jewry; but it is expected that the corporation of London will grant them either the whole, or a great part of the ground on which Blackwell Hall stands: In that case, a new house will be erected, containing every desirable accommodation suitable for an establishment of such magnitude.

It will be necessary to enter into a brief explanation of the internal economy of the house, and to give an account of the publications which are found on the tables of the institution; and also a short description of the library.

On entering the house, which was erected in 1677 by Sir Robert Clayton, is a large and spacious hall, the great staircase in which is finely painted, by Sir James Thornhill, with several subjects from the story of Hercules, as detailed by the Mythologists. On the top of the stair-case is a copy of Guido's picture of the Rape of Dejanira. Behind the hall is the newspaper-room, which contains three tables, on which are laid all the London daily newspapers, viz.

the Times, Post, Chronicle, Herald, Ledger, Press, Oracle, Morning Advertiser, Courier, Sun, Star, Traveller, Globe, Statesman, and Pilot; the London Gazette; Cobbet's and Redhead-Yorke's weekly papers; Lloyd's List, the Packet List, the Shipping List, and the London Price Current. In each table are drawers, in which the clerk of the Institution regularly files the papers every evening after the house is closed, and at the end of the month they are removed and preserved to be bound in volumes. On these tables are also found Gazetteers, Directories, and other books of reference. There are also the votes and all the reports of the various committees, printed by order of the House of Commons, which are presented to the Institution by one of the managers a member of the House of Commons.

Round this room is hung a collection of Arrowsmith's Maps, neatly fitted up on canvas and spring-rollers:

On each end of this room is another smaller room; that on the left is used for reading the reviews, magazines, the principal periodical publications, popular pamphlets, and modern books. In this room are found the Reviews, the Monthly, Gentleman's, European, Philosophical, and Botanical Magazines; the Athenæum, the Literary Panorama; Censura Literaria; Repertory of Arts; Naval Chronicle; the Monthly Mirror; Lists of the Army and Navy; Sowerby's English Botany; Nicholson's Journal; Flower's Political Review; the Medical Journal; &c. The room on the right contains the foreign papers and journals; on the table is Le Moniteur, le Publiciste, the Hamburg Correspondenten; the Manheim, Franc-

fort, and Leyden Journals ; the *Magazin Encyclopedique* ; *Archives Litteraire* ; *Journal de Physique* ; *Mercure de France* ; *Bibliothique Commerciale* ; *Journal de la Litterature de France* ; *Journal de la Litterature Etrangere* ; *Annales des Arts et Manufactures* ; *La Revue* ; *Annales de Museum d'Histoire Naturelle* ; *L'Esprit des Journaux* ; and the *Allgemeine Literatur-Zeitung*.— There are also several modern French publications to be found in this room.

The library is arranged on the first floor, and is contained in five handsome rooms. It consists of nearly ten thousand volumes, selected with great care ; about one half of which are in folio and quarto. In the fine arts, in natural history, in bibliography, in parliamentary history, in topography, and the history and antiquities of Great Britain, this library is extremely rich. Here may be found the valuable collection of books made by the deceased Marquis of Lansdown, relating to the French revolution, also a large Collection of Tracts, having reference to the Political and Commercial Affairs of these Kingdoms, in upwards of three hundred volumes. The library, including a good collection of maps, cost nearly 9000*l.* and considering that it comprises many works of great and increasing value, scarcity, and utility, this sum cannot be thought disproportionate to the extent and importance of the acquisition.

The establishment of the Institution, at present, consists of the

principal librarian, Professor Porson, who has apartments in the house ; the clerk, Mr. J. Savage, who has also the domestick management of the Institution ; two sub-librarians ; porter, bookbinder, and two female servants.

The funds of the Institution arise from the payment of seventy-five guineas by each of the proprietors, and of twenty-five guineas, lately advanced to thirty-five guineas, by the life-subscribers. The total expense of repairs, alterations, furniture, and various necessary accommodations, have been about 3,800*l.* The total receipts are about 78,000*l.* which with the interest, will make nearly 82,000*l.*

The temporary committee of managers, on the commencement of their duties, appointed two sub-committees ; the one for the purpose of obtaining temporary accommodations ; the other for that of superintending and directing the formation of the library. The diligence and success of these sub-committees will be best understood by an examination of the house of the Institution, and of the library. The state of the house and the accommodations given to the proprietors and subscribers, will speak sufficiently for the one ; and the value and utility of the books selected for the library, will speak the industry, talents, and attention, paid by the other to the accomplishment of an object so truly desirable in the metropolis.

May 1, 1807.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE to his friends in this country.

LETTER SEVENTH.

Naples, Dec. 18th, 1804.

DEAR SIR,

I AVAIL myself of an opportunity, offered by the sailing of the United States frigate John Adams, to assure you of my continued recollection and regard. I can scarcely describe the emotions of pride and pleasure, which I felt in seeing, upon my arrival here, the streamers of a ship of war of my own country fluttering in the breeze. An American, who has never left his own shore, can form no idea of the contemptuous opinion, which all the European nations entertain of our country. Indeed I may add, that he never truly understands how insignificant we *really* are, until he has compared our establishments, force, means, and publick spirit, with those of other nations. It is true, that Europeans in general undervalue, and degrade us below what we merit. Though we know, that this proceeds from profound ignorance of our country, an ignorance which pervades *even the literary men of Europe*, yet we cannot avoid feeling vexed at the very humble opinion, which they entertain of us. The Europeans confound all America, Southern and Northern, and the Islands of the Gulf of Mexico. They think it the same country, and if you are presented to them as a citizen of Lima, Boston, or Jamaica, they receive you simply as an inhabitant of the new world, and a being several ages behind the meanest European in civilization and improvement.

The Governour of a Swiss city proposed to me to take a letter to his friend at Jamaica, and even at Naples, where they have so much connection with the United States, they subjected a vessel from Salem to a quarantine of forty days, although she left America when there were two feet of snow on the ground, and this simply because they have heard that *America* is subject to contagious diseases. Wherever our frigates have appeared, the character of the nation has immediately been raised, our citizens are treated with more respect, and more correct notions are entertained of our importance as a nation.

Those who stay at home, and hear only the ridiculous puffings of ourselves in our orations and publick speeches, may believe, that we are dreaded abroad, as much as we are puffed at home; but those who encounter the thousand mortifications, which American travellers experience, will return infinitely humbled as to our national consequence, and will use more moderate and modest expressions when speaking of our power and importance, than they had been formerly accustomed to do. Instead of believing, that we are the wisest, freest, bravest, happiest, greatest people on earth, they will think some as free, most as wise, and *almost all* as happy, brave, and great, as the much boasted people of the United States. Will our people, so long accustomed to falsehood and flattery, bear to be told this truth? Will they not be

disposed to stone the man, who shall assure them, that we are a century behind ALL the European nations in every branch of learning? That even the poor Swiss are as *proud*, and as *hasty*, as we are? That although crushed by the overgrown and irresistible force of their ambitious neighbour, they are as brave, and that they opposed to usurpation *double* the force, which the United States could ever raise during the most critical part of our revolutionary war? So long, then, as degraded Holland possesses a navy, which could *annihilate* all the maritime force, which the United States could create in two years; so long as Switzerland, or even the half of Lombardy, furnish more regular and better organised troops than this *vast nation*; so long as every literary academy of *every city* in Europe can produce more learned men, than this extensive republic, let us in the name of modesty and decorum, forbear to boast of our power or our knowledge, until we have made a little better use of the means, which God and nature have given us for the improvement of both.

Before I give you a more detailed description of this city, let me sketch out the few objects which attracted my attention on the road from Rome to this place. No country on earth, I presume, is more wretched than that part of the *campania* which you traverse in leaving Rome for this city. From Rome to Terracina, a country of seventy miles in extent, all subject to the Pope, you pass through a vast desert, inhabited only by buffaloes or birds of the ocean, who seek their food in these deserted marshes. A solitary hut, or a collection of houses, which they call a village, now and then occur, to add horror to the most

melancholy scenery. Poverty, famine, and disease are strongly marked in the dresses and upon the countenances of the inhabitants. There are, however, one or two villages, more elevated above the fatal exhalations of the marshes, where the inhabitants drag out a less miserable existence. The sides of the road are lined with the ruins of proud mausolea, or prouder villas, or the grand remains of ancient aqueducts, whose noble and yet unimpaired arches, extending as far as the eye can reach, form a grand, and at the same time beautiful perspective.

The first considerable village, about thirty miles from Rome, is Velletri, situated on rising ground, which is better cultivated than the greater part of this wretched country. It is interesting to antiquarians, as having been the reputed birth-place or residence of four emperours—Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, and Otho. They pretend, that the remains of the palace of the last are still extant. Whatever may have been its former grandeur, it certainly has nothing imperial in its present appearance. On descending from Velletri, you enter the famous Pontine marshes. These extensive morasses are now among the most disgusting and useless, though they were formerly esteemed among the finest parts of Italy. Julius Cæsar began the stupendous work of draining them, which was completed by Augustus. At one period they were encompassed or covered by twenty-three populous towns and villages. Now not even a trace of these towns and villages is to be met with, and not a single edifice is to be seen, except a few publick houses, erected by the pope, for the protection and accommodation of travellers. These marshes are forty miles in extent, and so sunk-

on us to produce exhalations, fatal to every species of animal, at certain seasons of the year. At the time we passed them, although in the midst of winter, a sulphureous smell was so powerful, that we were obliged to shut up every window of our coach, and with that precaution, the effects of it were distressing.

The popes have expended immense sums in vain attempts to restore and maintain the ancient dykes and drains of the Romans, but it is too mighty a work for modern enterprise and resources.

Throughout the whole of this road you pass over the ancient Appian way, in many parts of which the old pavement remains, not only intire, but in a perfect state. Here, then, is another among the numerous arts in which the ancients excelled us; for at least if they did not excel us in every part of the art, they certainly did in the strength and durability of their work.

As we approach the southern and eastern extremity of these morasses, on our right towards the sea, rises the lofty promontory of Circello, which Virgil so elegantly describes as the abode of the enchantress Circe. The marshes are so low around it, that it *appears* to be an island. Hence the mistake, or the designed intimation of its peculiar appearance in the lines of Virgil's *Æneid* :

Proxima Circe raduntur littora terræ,
 &c. VII Book, 10 verse.

And in the III. *Æneid* he calls it an island :

Et Salis Ausonii lustrandum sævibus
 æquor
 Infernique lacus, &c. &c. insula Circes.

I cannot conceive in what manner the enchantress procured, unless by *her mysterious art*, the lux-

uries which Virgil describes, for the promontory is not extensive, and appears to be a barren rock.

As you pass Circello, you discover in front the conspicuous and romantick town of Terracina, situated on an almost inaccessible eminence on the shore of the Mediterranean. Its lofty and romantick rocks form a most noble and beautiful object, as you approach from the Pontine marshes. It was the ancient Anxur of the Romans; and in its position and appearance answers the description of it by Horace :

Impositum latè Saxis candentibus Anxur.

Except as to the colour of the rocks, which are now of a yellow brown, instead of white.

This town was supposed to be a peculiar favourite of Jupiter, to whom the inhabitants erected a temple, the remains of which are still visible. They do not, however, bear the marks either of taste or grandeur. They appear to me just what you might expect *village* architects to produce. It is true that many, and I believe some respectable writers have given a very different account of it, and have formed some very grand and imposing descriptions of it; but I am persuaded, that the most of these writers of descriptions never took the trouble to ascend to this temple, which is situated on the top of a very high hill, to ascend which, in this enervating climate, is no small labour.

Certain I am, however, that no man, who has ever seen these remains, which are now incorporated into the body of a catholick church, (where, perhaps, there is as much idolatry as before) can doubt, that the style of the ancient temple was mean and vulgar, at least if the pillars, which are now shewn to

us, were really part of the ancient façade. I have been the more minute in this circumstance, of the difference between the *real appearance* of these ancient remains, and the descriptions of them in several books of travels, because the same thing has occurred to me frequently.

It is a fact, that travellers, who make books, generally follow each other blindly, without either taking the trouble to examine by their own senses, when on the spot, to see if the descriptions are correct; and oftentimes perhaps without visiting the objects, which they attempt to describe. I shall occasionally notice these blunders as they occur, of which the description of the temple of Jupiter at Terracina is certainly one. Terracina, in point of position, is one of the most beautiful cities of Europe. The landscapes around it, like all those upon the shores of the Mediterranean, are a mixture of the sublime and picturesque. Surrounded on the land side by rocky mountains, which overhang the city; to the north the eye ranges without limit over the Pontine marshes; to the west the view is terminated by the promontory of Circe, and to the south the Mediterranean stretches before you. On the top of the mountain, behind the city, Theodorick, the most powerful of the Gothick kings, erected a magnificent palace in the Gothick style. The remains of it are still extensive and noble, and together with the rudeness and inaccessible nature of the spot, forcibly recal the barbarous ferocity of the age in which it was erected. With great labour I ascended to the spot, through thickets of myrtle and other evergreens, whose beauty and fragrance were enchanting. Under our feet the antirrhinum, and the daisy, and

several species of narcissus, now in full bloom (December) enamelled the mountain side. It is not surprising, that in a climate and with a soil so mild and so fertile, Virgil should have sung so sweetly of rural scenes.

As you quit Terracina, you enter the kingdom of Naples, and, in my opinion, the most charming country in the world. At this season, so inclement and sterile in the greater part of the inhabited world, the orange and lemon in full fruit, the olive and the cork tree in glossy verdure, the myrtle and the arbutus with their fragrant flowers, enrich and beautify the scenery, and regale the senses. Passing a most wretched, dirty village of Fondi, which has retained its disagreeable character ever since the time of Horace, who thus contemptuously speaks of it, in a description of his tour to Naples. 'Fondianos ubi Aufidius Prætor est, libenter relinquimus,' you soon arrive at the charming village of Mola da Gaeta, which is admitted to be the scite of the ancient Formia, so great a favourite with the Romans. Here many of their most distinguished statesmen and writers had their villas. Here was the favourite residence of Cicero, whose tomb, in very tolerable preservation, is still shewn at the entrance of this place. It was near this spot, that he was betrayed (you will recollect) by a young man whom he had patronised, and where he was murdered by the assassins of Mark Antony. The spot, on which these villas were situated, is truly enchanting, and justifies the good taste of Cicero in selecting it for his residence.

The sea has however made great inroads upon this place, and you perceive the ruins of palaces and villas submerged at the distance of several rods from the shores.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 23.

Fusdus vappæ famam timet ac nebulonis,
 Dives agris, dives positus in fenore nummis.
 Quinas hic capiti mercedes exæcat; atque
 Quanto perditior quisque est, tanto acrius urget. Hor. sat. 2. l. 1.

THE last Remarker held up to merited detestation a crime, that from its frequency has almost ceased to be thought immoral; and which, if it continues much longer with impunity, bids fair to rank among the cardinal virtues of a commercial people. It is practised by many of the rich, the influential, and *apparently* respectable part of the community; who call it good, and endeavour to justify it by reasons, as well as sanction it by their example: it is more profitable than any species of fair trade, and therefore speaks powerfully to the strongest feelings of tradesmen: and candour will never let it be supposed, that those men can be scoundrels, who have been looked up to for many years as the first of their fellow citizens, as patterns of prudence, and models of steady habits.

Usury, as it easily evades the law, allures by the prospect of great gain, is sanctioned by grey-beards, and defended by all the efforts of perverted reason; bids defiance to censure, whether from the pulpit or the press: it stifles the voice of conscience, and laughs at the dictates of honour: yet as its meanness is in direct opposition to every liberal feeling, and its natural tendency perfectly hostile to the interests of general commerce; every honest merchant ought to treat it as an inveterate enemy, and every gentleman to keep the finger of scorn constantly pointing at it.

Monopolies have ever been considered as unfair and unjust, and in proportion to the necessity or general utility of the article monopolized, is the odium cast on the monopolizer: in this point of view, how unfair and unjust, is the character of the usurer. The monopolizer of grain, in a famine, is not more infamous, than the wretch, who, by his influence over monied establishments, prevents the oil of commerce from being diffused among the smaller wheels of the machine; for though the larger ones may be able to keep in motion, the effect of their motion extends not beyond themselves, and the benefits that should result from the proper exercise of the whole, is confined to a few, instead of being advantageous to the country.

This pernicious vice, which undermines what it professes to support, as it is peculiarly obnoxious to the mercantile interest, ought by merchants and tradesmen to be combated by every possible means. Every prudent man will endeavour to be content with moderate profit, safely acquired, rather than pay immoderately for an additional sum to enable him to hazard his all; and every honest man will, as soon as he finds himself getting behind hand, call those, to whom he is indebted, at once together, and make an honourable composition, rather than, for the sake of a little delay, suffer his property to become the prey of vultures, who

at last will not have a shilling in the pound for his confiding and liberal creditors : but the allurements of gambling speculations, and the false shame of having been unsuccessful, induces men to sacrifice their principles, their families, and those friends by whose aid they were first set up, and by whom they yet might be rescued, could they but resolve to act candidly and justly, instead of gratifying a mistaken pride by means, that must ultimately be ruinous. But this they would not be able to do, how much soever they might be inclined, if the *Shaver*, like the lurking spider in his web, did not lie in watch to entangle the heedless wretch in his snares : to the usurer therefore, is to be fairly attributed all that laxity of principle and carelessness of reputation which brings disgrace on the mercantile character, embarrasses its operations, and ruins so many of its professors.

The justice of this charge against them, severe as it is, they cannot, dare not, deny ; but that the exposure and condemnation of injustice will make them cease to be unjust, would shew little knowledge of a usurer's heart in any one that expects it. The usurer is totally devoid of real honesty, and is correct in his dealings only as the letter of the law obliges him. Not what he ought or ought not to do, but what he may

and can do, is the rule of his conscience. His breast has not a spark of human feeling, he is cruel as death and greedy as the grave. If any thing can make him part with money or forego an opportunity of gaining it, it must be some publick ostentatious charity, which will be recorded, and trumpeted forth to the world, by which means some may be deceived into an opinion of his liberality, and put it in his power to make them repent their credulity ; or it must be to feed his revenge on those who expose his villany, and in some degree diminish his extortions.

The deadly and immovable hatred of Shylock to Anthonio, was not merely because the latter was a christian,

‘ But more, for that in low simplicity,
He lends out money gratis, and brings
down
The rate of usance here with us in
Venice.’—

This was the ancient grudge he bore him, and for which he was even willing to give three thousand ducats to have the means of revenge.

The writer of this well knows he shall excite similar sentiments in the hearts of the Shylocks of Boston, but as he never was, and is never likely to be an object of their voracity, he despises their malice as much as he holds them and their practices in abhorrence and contempt.

POLITICKS.

For the Anthology.

THE superiority of our own constitution over that of Great-Britain, both in theory and practice, has ever formed a favourite subject of declamation to igno-

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rant and insidious politicians among us. To refute all the silly objections of these cavillers would be far beyond the compass of a single paper. But there is one

evil, which has been more frequently than any other the theme of their abuse; and yet the smallest inquiry into the history of that country would have shewn them that it had no existence, but in their own disordered and perverse imaginations. We are however every day informed, that we alone are exempted from the plagues of privileged orders; that here alone are offices bestowed on merit, and our happiness in this respect is vaunted as a charm to dispel the gloomy horrors of democracy, and as a consolation under all the afflictions which good men of every party must suffer from the too frequent exaltation of the base, the vicious, and the ignorant, to those employments from which the noble-minded, the virtuous, and the wise have been so unworthily dismissed. For my own part, I am inclined to think that in England, the shoemakers, the tailors, and the butchers retire to their long homes, without having, at any period of their lives, been raised to a seat in the senate or in the cabinet, principally because in that country, as in this, such men have never been found possessed of knowledge and ability sufficient to recommend them to such stations. In fact, we have not often seen their geese desirous of becoming consuls, nor have the subjects of that country, under any violence of party spirit,

It is said of the marquis of Halifax, that after the revolution in 1688, many absurd applications were made to him from persons pretending great services, for his recommendation to posts and places under the government, which they were utterly unqualified to fill. The marquis, being at last wearied with their importunities, observed, "that he had frequently been told that the Roman republic had been saved by geese, but he never heard that those geese were made consuls."

been selected as candidates for popular election. In this, where those town or village heroes have been transferred to public life, they have not generally been noticed for the brilliancy of their talents, or the usefulness of their exertions. But although low birth, or the practice of the more ordinary occupations in society, (respectable as they may be) have not of themselves formed in any one an irresistible claim to the favour of the prince or the people, yet that many have risen from early obscurity to the highest rank in Great-Britain, splendid examples may be found among our own contemporaries, or among those who have but lately quitted the stage of life. The following great and well-known names are probably but a few among numbers. Were we to recur to more ancient times, we might discover the rich, the magnificent, the all-powerful Wolsley, a butcher's son; and Thomas Cromwell, his equal almost in rank, and in all other things his superiour, in early life the menial servant of the cardinal. In the reign only of the present king, the highest offices of almost every kind have been held by such men, as must have risen to fame and power under any government, in which advancement could follow the possession of great and commanding abilities. Moore alone, the late archbishop of Canterbury, who rose to that exalted station from the lowest birth, (for he was, I believe, son of a butcher at Gloucester) may be considered a child of fortune, favoured by the mere concurrence of lucky chance. The office, which, according to the English rules of precedence, ranks immediately after that of the archbishop of Canterbury, and before all the hereditary nobility not of

the blood royal, has been thrice within twenty years enjoyed by men who obtained it but from the predominance of their talents; by Thurlow, Loughborough, and Eldon, of whom the two latter at least were of what must in that country be called humble parentage. The present lord chancellor Erskine, though son of a Scotch earl of ancient family, laboured for many years under the pressure of poverty; nor was it till after some time, passed both in the naval and military professions, and I believe not till a marriage connexion with a lady of no fortune, and the prospect of a large family, that the irresistible and *sacra fames auri*, in him a virtue no less than a necessity, compelled him to embrace the profession of the law. Dunning, lord Ashburham, was the son of a country attorney in the west of England. Clive, the hero of Plassey, quitted the counting-house for the field of battle, and for that company in whose service he started as a clerk or writer, conquered kingdoms. In the navy there are the brothers Hood and Bridport, both ennobled, and both the sons of a country clergyman; and the great, the lamented, the immortal Nelson, of the same respectable though humble origin. If lord Peterborough, Granby, or Howe, were of noble birth, they deserved a chief command by their abilities and their valour. Sir Samuel Romilly, the present solicitor general, is the son of a poor Genevan emi-

grant. The first earl of Chatham, we are told by lord Chesterfield, owed his rise singly to his own abilities, and unassisted by favour or by fortune had no powerful protector to introduce him into business, and to do the honour of his parts. Marlborough was the son of a country gentleman. Lord Barham, the late first lord of the admiralty, is of the lowest birth. General Sir John Moore, is son of Dr. Moore, the traveller. Were we to look among the mercantile class, we should find as in this country, that the possessors of immense wealth are generally men of obscure origin, and indebted for their opulence entirely to their own exertions. Without making a direct eulogium on the constitution of England, without any invidious reflections on our own, the frequent recurrence of these events we may surely be permitted to regard as a most estimable quality in every form of government. In that of Great-Britain it is a sublime, a glorious spectacle; for it is there united with all the advantages of tranquillity, of law, and subordination, with the permanency of families and estates, with the principles of honour and of glory, with a true love of country, and with every encouragement to the noblest exertions of mind and body in the senate, the cabinet, the field, or on the ocean, and in a private life devoted to the arts, the sciences, and literature.

words, notations, instances, &c. but
 for the Monthly Anthology.
 ON HOPE.
 The unfortunate are preserved thro' hope. MENANDER.

THE all-wise Creator of the universe has manifested his benevolence in every work of his power. He has delighted to exhibit this virtue, not only in the general operations, but in the most minute circumstances of life. The indifferent spectator will discern this quality reigning in the world on the most superficial examination, while the philosopher delights in viewing the exertions of goodness in the petty affairs of mankind and in the moral economy of nature. This brightest glory of Divinity burst upon man with accumulated splendor at the promulgation of Christianity; yet among the heathens it darted a mild ray, and glimmered with a cheerful light. They indeed could not contemplate the wonderful benevolence of their Creator with the same assurance as is granted to Christians, because they had never heard, and never thought of the infinite mercies of God, as displayed in the doctrines of revelation. They however had the same universe to survey, and the same reason to exercise; and the fruit of their observations and experience was the perception of the goodness displayed in the natural and moral world.

Among a variety of general principles, which exhibit the benevolence of the Creator, is the universal extension of the consolation of hope. This is a widely diffused as the race of reasonable man, and is limited in its existence only by extinguishment of life. It is universal, continual, and

regenerating. It accompanies the soul in gladdening the children of sorrow, for where there is a rational being, there is the habitation of hope. It never forsakes the afflicted or unfortunate, but abides with him while nature and reason endure. Its powers are wonderful and unlimited; their operation is versatile, yet always benignant, for it may sometimes present to intellectual vision a single view of happy existence, and sometimes display the unlimited scenery of possible felicity.

The ancient mythologists represented the power of hope as the last gift of the gods; for when Pandora had been endowed with all perfection by acquiring from each of the divinities his peculiar excellence, she also received a box containing all the ills, diseases, and vexations of human life; when this box was afterwards opened and the vices and calamities flew abroad in the world, hope was found at the bottom of the box, and was given as the alleviator of every misfortune. By this fable the mythologists evinced their opinion of the consolations of hope. They considered, that the world would have been indeed wretched, had there been no comfort amid the innumerable miseries of human nature; and consequently they showed to mankind a principle, which was not needed, till sorrow and evil had entered the world, but which was then capable of soothing.

Quere, if Pandora was not forbidden to open the box?

ing and succouring every moral disorder and physical infirmity.

Of the heathen allegory I have never seen an explication, but I shall offer one which appears simple; and I offer it with the more pleasure, because if false, it can produce no other harm than that of contempt for the poor ingenuity of the author; and if it be true, it will serve to prove the truth of the history of creation, as related in the bible, and thus add another argument to the excellence of our holy religion.

By Pandora is meant a being, possessing every gift, as the word evidently denotes. Among the Greeks, it had a female signification, upon the principle mentioned in Harms's *Hermes*, that every recipient being is naturally considered of the female gender.—The first man, Adam, is darkly shadowed under the allegory of Pandora, the first woman. He received a command from his maker, which he was not to break; but which, if he should transgress, the inevitable consequence was misery and death. Pandora was ordered not to open the box, which had been given her, under the penalty of spreading disease and calamity in the world; and the hope, which remained at the bottom of the box, is typical of the gracious promise of salvation, which the benevolent God made at the time of man's transgression.

These are the leading features of resemblance, which it is sufficient for me to have sketched. Future investigators, who have the piety and erudition of *Masrice* and *Bryan*, may be able to exhibit the sources of Egyptian or Indian theology, whence the Greeks borrowed their story; they may be able to point out the minute differences between the heathen fable

and the scriptural narration; they may be able to reconcile apparent contradictions; to account for strange absurdities in the history of Pandora, and to demonstrate by new arguments the sacred truth of the formation and the fall of Adam.

Little speculation and experience are necessary to convince us of the evils of life: they are frequent and distressing. They come, when we never expect them, and when they have glided away, they are quickly followed by others. Some men are overpowered by a sudden condensation of misery; while others are wearied out by continual succession of petty misfortunes. Man indeed is born to sorrow. At the moment of birth he gives signs of that pain, which generally accompanies him in the different stages of existence, only altered by irresistible circumstances, or suspended by the alleviations of science.

Under such circumstances, what would be the condition of man without hope? He would sink, loaded with sorrow, to the grave; or he would drag out a painful existence, anticipating the moment of dissolution. But this messenger of good whispers to every one soft words of peace. It cheers the sick man with the prospect of better days, when health shall invigorate his frame, and when society shall revel at his restoration to pleasure. The poor man anticipates the year, when he shall no longer be obliged to work for his daily bread; when, with a competent supply of riches, he shall be able to afford himself a decent habitation for the evening of his days. The mariner, tossed in the waves or almost overwhelmed in a storm, can discern in the horizon of hope a safe re-

treat from the present vexations, and a secure accommodation against the coming calamities of existence. In like manner, to all who are oppressed by physical evils, hope offers a suitable relief; she spreads her light, and all darkness vanishes; she extends her powerful hand, and the tear is wiped from the widow's eye and the countenance of the orphan glistens with cheerfulness.

The natural evils of the world are indeed great; they are sufficient to oppress a virtuous mind, and to appal the stoutest resolution; yet if we diligently survey the whole system of beings, we shall find other sources of misery, more poignant in their effect, if not more frequent in their recurrence. Physical infirmities have reference only to the body; of course they cannot endure longer than life; and though our existence be embittered by sorrow, and overwhelmed by agony, there is little consequent apprehension about future felicity or torment. But as moral agents, men are subjected to temptation; they are seduced by evil pleasures, or transported with furious passions. Hence is produced the whole catalogue of crimes. Hence originate those vices and sins, which a moral philosopher cannot contemplate without pity, and which the transgressor of human and divine laws knows to be the cause of his severe punishment and misery. These evils, which relate to our moral nature, have evidently two springs; they are produced either by our own folly and wickedness, and then we are criminal; or they are the consequence of accidents and circumstances, which are not to be resisted, and then we are unfortunate.

Among other evils, of the first class, is the undeserved loss of reputation. This, to an honourable man, is a deprivation greater than that of life. If a virtuous mind have been for years raising his character by regular pursuits of industry, and the punctual discharge of moral obligations; if he have attained an high rank among his fellow-men, and with conscious superiority views himself as equal to the highest in the eye of heaven, how is his heart torn, when this reputation has been sapped by the artful and the malignant, when the lowest artifices have successfully been executed to number him among the criminal and the vicious? No anguish is equal to his; no tongue can speak his sorrow; no treasures can compensate his loss. Yet to this poor being of misfortune there is hope. This will cheer him and comfort him; not merely the hope that his accusers will one day be condemned, for an honourable man will pardon even his enemies; not merely the hope that his character will be re-established in this world, for of this he may care but little, as experience has evinced the vanity of depending on the opinion of the world; but the sure and certain hope of another state, where his virtues will shine clearer than the day-star in its meridian, where his good deeds will be recompensed by full-flowing felicity, and where perhaps his heavenly father will crown him with greater glory for the loss, which he sustained below, of all that is valuable, dear, and praiseworthy.

Hope is the constant attendant on him, who has laboriously endeavoured to acquire renown in the republic of letters, and who, from the negligence of mankind, or the ab-

surdity of fashion, has never obtained the rank which was his due. No one should ever despond. Literary history will point out many names, high in literature, and often in the mouth of fame, who were once unknown, forgotten, or disregarded. In their progress through a great undertaking, hope comforted and fortified them. It exhibited in bright array the testimonials of future celebrity, and proclaimed the loud and distinct acclamations of mankind. Even if the writers were flattered and seduced by the gay rise of hope; if they did not receive tributary honours or profitable distinctions in their life-time, they looked forward with a steady eye to ages yet unborn, and in anticipation enjoyed the shouts of gratulation, and the embraces of kindred souls, who welcomed their advancement to the temple of fame.

The evils, which are produced by wickedness, are always horrible in the eyes of society and of God; those, which arise from folly, rather than from sin, are not always punished with severity by the earthly judge; and perhaps hereafter they may be considered with an eye of compassion by the supreme disposer of all things.—Crimes, which are plotted in darkness and secrecy by the deliberations of infernal men, and which are perpetrated with all the cool savageness of malignancy, are punished with unrelenting justice by earthly tribunals; yet I know not if hope ever deserted the most shameless of villains. His fancy continually suggests hopes from

the effects of chance or design. The dungeon indeed contains his body, but nothing restrains the operations of mind. He may look forward to his release by the destruction of his country; to his escape by means of a thousand accidents; to a deliverance by civil commotions, or the conflagration of the prison, the influence of friends, or the convulsion of an earthquake.

A dungeon is the solitude of a criminal, and, I hope, sometimes the cell of a penitent. No one can limit by finite bounds the compassion of infinite benevolence. The murderer should indeed deeply feel the awful horror of his crime; he should be torn by the remorse of his conscience, and humiliated even to dust by the solemn contemplation of his accumulated wickedness. To such a man I would not offer the smallest reason of confidence, not the most minute ground of assurance to the favour of heaven; yet if he were deeply sorrowful, if he were inwardly convinced of his wickedness, and were completely repentant, I trust that a ray of hope would gleam into his dark dungeon, and that he might sometimes think on the infinite merits of his Saviour, and the infinite power of his God. We are all the children of sin, and have all forfeited the countenance of our Maker; yet we can trust in the hope of reconciliation, not only for ourselves, but even for murderers, for we know that goodness is unlimited, and that there is mercy in heaven.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 29.

—juvat integros accedere fontes,
Atque haurire—juvat nova decerpere flores. LUCRETIVS.

Sweet are the springing founts, with nectar new;
Sweet the new flowers that bloom; but sweeter still
Those flowers to pluck, and weave a roseate wreath.

TACITUS.

THE writings of Tacitus display the weakness of a falling empire, and the morals of a degenerate age. The period in which he lived was favourable to the exercise of writing; and under the auspices of Trajan he was not restrained from painting strongly, what he had ardently conceived. His genius was energetic and penetrating. In the horrors of the years, which preceded the reign of Vespasian, he finds an ample subject for the workings of his mind, and in his reflections on the corruption of manners, and the state of society, he discovers the most profound knowledge of our nature. Accordingly his writings by the scholars in Europe have been studied as a regular task. They form the subject of deep meditation for all statesmen, who wish to raise their country to glory; to continue it in power, or preserve it from ruin. Time has destroyed that part of the history which depicted the virtues of Titus, Nerva, and Trajan; but as if to show how vile our nature can be, has left almost untouched the lives of Tiberius and his successors, to the accession of Vespasian. The mutilations have however been almost restored through the patronage of princes, the industry and erudition of successive editors and commentators; so that the world is now presented, as by a wild Salvator

Rosa, with a faithful picture of the miseries and crimes of the Roman empire; from the death of Augustus, to the assassination of Vitellius. Perhaps this series of time was as fertile in crimes as the dark ages. Before these, mankind had become inured to misery. No one knew what was liberty, and very few had even heard of it. Of course their situation was not materially worse, during the centuries that followed. But previously to the commencement of the empire, even in the days of Marius, and Sylla, and Pompey, and Cæsar, there was some reverence for ancient laws and institutions. Freedom was not entirely forgotten, and where real felicity was wanting, there was a false, alluring, mock-sun glory, which attracted, illuminated, and deceived. The knowledge of this was in the remembrance of the slaves of Tiberius, and fathers had told it to their children, so that both realised the miseries of the times—rendered more excruciating from the recollection of the tales of the victories of Cæsar, and the splendour of Augustus. The causes, which led to the downfall of this mighty empire, are highly worthy of the consideration of every statesman and scholar; and no where can they be studied with more pleasure and profit than in the writings of Tacitus.

SOUTHERN'S TRAGEDY OF ISABELLA.

THE tragedy of Isabella is rather of the common kind, except as to the plot, which is good. The incidents are of a very interesting nature, and are certainly well arranged. The distress of Isabella is awful, and her madness is pathetic; but in the language there is no flow of verse; in the sentiments there is no burst of mighty mind; in the morals there is something faulty. Nor do I like the introduction of such comick beings as the nurse. If Southern introduced these in imitation of Shakespeare, he was grossly mistaken; for why should a poet imitate what at least is doubtful as to merit. The world and the critics are not perfectly reconciled to the fools, the coxcombs, and the Falstaffs of the serious plays of Shakespeare, and shall Southern attempt to make that critically good, in which the all-powerful spirit of the great magician did not perfectly succeed? The tragedy of Isabella has little of the sentiment of Otway, and nothing of the elegance of Rowe. I have seen Southern somewhere called tragick, but in Isabella I can observe nothing tragical, but the horrid combination of heart-rending incidents, which is to be ascribed to the plot, and not to the play. I have never seen Mrs. Siddons in Isabella; but she has been described to me, as being wonderfully great. Her manner is majestic, and her looks are the most expressive; her tones are sometimes soft, like the south wind blowing over the grove, and sometimes deep, like the bursting of revengeful thunder.

CICERO.

CICERO, in the Catalinarian orations, shows himself not less a
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statesman than an orator; but the wonderful collocation of words to give richness and effect to his sentence, is remarkable. He loves a full close on the ear, and I should think, delighted like Gibbon to mark the musical pauses and dying conclusion of elaborate sentences. Yet in these orations he is short, vehement, and abrupt. He was master of every style, from the swelling Asiatick luxuriance, to the pithy conciseness of Tacitus, and used them as suited his particular purpose. If he thunders against Cataline, he is short, quick, attentive to his ideas, and sometimes careless of harmony; but if he praises Pompey in the Manilian, or courts Caesar in Marcellus, his words are long, and his periods remarkably harmonious. The whole language of compliment and courtesy is open to his delicate powers of selection, and the force of the Roman tongue rolls on the ear of the auditor with such amplitude, dignity, and grace, that no one can deny its charms, or resist its application. We regret to see the encomiums lavished on himself in the third oration. For the services Cicero had rendered his country, he had a right to general congratulation and civic honours, but I could have wished he had been less frequent and diffuse on his own merits. He needed not to have proved the day of conservation more illustrious than that of creation, nor have thought himself more deserving of renown, than Romulus the founder of the city. He affects to disdain all honours, all decorations, signs of greatness, and marks of superiority, as inferior to the merits of his achievements, and as insufficient to reward him for the benefits he had rendered his country.

MILTON.
Milton is one of the English authors, who will probably last as long as the English language, not merely on account of his original, unrivalled excellence in the sublime, but because national pride is interested in his preservation.—The Greeks boast of their Homer; the Romans of Virgil; the Italians of Tasso; the Portuguese of Camoens; the Spaniards of Ercilla; the French of Voltaire; and the English of Milton. Besides this last, the nation does not pretend to boast of any other epick; for whatever may be the merits of Blackmore, Pye, Ogilvie, Glover, or Southey, neither has produced a national epick. Of course the English from honest, honourable pride, will always justly extol their Milton, as equal to any, and superiour to most of the the heroick poets of ancient or modern times. His delight was to sport in the wide regions of possibility; reality was a scene too narrow for his mind. He sent his faculties out upon discovery, into worlds where imagination only can travel, and delighted to form new modes of existence, and furnish sentiment and action to superiour beings; to trace the counsels of hell, or accompany the choirs of heaven. Milton's character of Satan exhibits wonderful powers of mind. The English poet paints him as the genius of destruction, but gives him form and substance. He is not a metaphysical, abstract being, as the French poets would have made him, talking about atheism, &c. He is an arch fiend, the enemy of God and man, walking to and fro the earth, seeking whom he may devour, whose real existence is acknowledged by all christians, for whom Milton wrote his poem. He

is the the ancient Lucifer, who, according to the language of the prophets, would have ascended to heaven, and exalted his throne above the stars of God, who has fallen as the star of the morning, and whose pride precipitated him to hell.— This arch rebel overcome, who bears on his front the marks of thunder, does not repent of change, though changed in outward lustre. In the last degree of abasement and wretchedness, he retains the memory of his ancient glory, and meditates on new vengeance.— Some trait of his celestial nature may yet be perceived in his infernal soul. His pride alone triumphs over his remorse. He raises his desponding legions, and infuses into them his audacity and fury. Ancient prophets had foretold that man was to be created to take the rank, which he had formerly held. He conspires to defeat this favourite object of Jehovah; he arrives in the midst of dangers at the confines of the universe; he sees a glimpse of that light which he had abandoned, and whose splendour he had attempted to efface;

—'horror and doubt distract
His troubled thoughts, and from the
bottom stir
The hell within him.'

It is then that he exhales so naturally all his despair, in that admirable apostrophe to the full blazing sun, which is, or ought to be, well known to our readers. When Paradise Lost was translated into the French language, the judicious Rollin, Louis, Racine, and Despreaux all admired the wonderful genius of the English poet. Voltaire was not less delighted; until his mad zeal against christianity warped all his literary opinions. Thus the same Voltaire who, writing of epick poets, had said,

'Milton, plus sublime qu'eux tous,
 A des beautés moins agreable ;'
 supported an entirely opposite opinion, in an insipid work of his old age, called 'Le Taureau blanc.' He saw nothing in *Paradise Lost* but a ridiculous tale *sur un serfent et une femme*. Helvetius, though he was an atheist, thought differently. After a long dispute with Voltaire in favour of Milton, 'Vous avez beau faire,' says he, 'le diable est mon homme.'

THE ROBBERS.

THERE is no doubt some raving and theatrical declamation in the tragedy of the Robbers, but I do pity the soul that is not melted with its tenderness and roused by its energies. Perhaps, in the whole fairy-ground of fiction, a character, like Moor cannot be found. His revenge is of the most natural kind, always uniform, and wonderfully great. The kind feelings are not buried nor destroyed, they only slumber in temporary torpor. Sentiments the most manly, and perceptions which savour of true greatness, are often expressed in language the most forcible and sublime. As for Francis, he has the form, the features, and the folly of a villain. Great art is clearly exhibited in his manner of deceiving his father, and his subsequent conduct makes him the finished hero of vice. Who does not love Amelia? so constant in her affection, so great in her hatred. As for the robbers, how nicely are their characters and dispositions marked! all are criminal, yet some are perhaps to be pitied, and others are downright offenders, with blackest hearts and hands full of shameful vice. But if we consider the state of society at that time, they will not appear so very detestable. Knowledge

and religion were mere names, or not better than superficial science or hateful superstition. The use of arms was fully allowed, by which means alone the poor were protected and provided for, and the female sex defended from insult, or their dishonour revenged. The robbers in this play are eager to sacrifice the infamous Charles, and in fact he is buried in the tomb he had prepared for his father. How do they catch every word of Kozinki's tale, and how do they burn for revenge on the villainous prince, the possessor of his Amelia. Indeed our state of civilization is no standard, by which the feudal ages are to be tried. To me it appears, that the crimes of the robbers were the common disorders committed by the strong, and so universal were the ravages of a similar nature, that I rather consider the actions and bloody thoughts of the robbers as necessary consequences of barbarism, than criminal aberrations from moral virtue. The language of the play is generally natural. It is strong in a high degree, and powerfully impresses the dictates of revenge, the emotions of terror, and the sentiments of pity.

ELEGIES OF PROPERTIUS AND TIBULLUS.

PROPERTIUS is one of the writers of antiquity, who was the latest discovered; and who has not been transmitted to us without great mutilations. The critics have not been able to establish his text but by much conjecture; they have transposed his elegies, and intermingled the lines, so that there is much reason to believe that this labour has not been always successful, and that the beauties of this writer has suffered much depreciation in the hand

of these *esse dominatoris*: In reading Propertius we are often disgusted with the profusion of mythological allusion, which occurs in almost every line, and which is so opposed to the language of passion. Quintilian declared, that in his time some persons preferred Propertius to Tibullus, but he evidently gives the palm to the last, and I believe that every man of taste will be of the opinion of Quintilian. It is not that Propertius has not beauties of the first order: he has more force and energy than Tibullus; a sensibility more penetrating; and more of passion; but nothing can exceed the grace, the sweetness, that charm so irresistible, those verses so tender and melodious, of the lover of Delia.

DISAPPOINTMENT AND HOPE.

THE morn of my life was cheerful as the singing of birds, and lovely as the opening of spring; not a cloud arose to mar its beauty, or obscure the bright sun of innocence and youth; every sense was gratified, every flower was sweet, and every rose without a thorn. Every kiss was a pledge of affection, and every friend was true. My cheeks were then blooming with health, and my eyes gladdened with happiness. But, alas! the charm is broken, the scene is changed, the flowers have lost their fragrance, and on every rose I have found a thorn. Friends, who were dear have departed, and nothing is left me, but the melancholy recollection of joys that are fled. Grief has stolen the rose from my cheek, and my eyes overflow with tears. But a little while, and my sorrows will be over and forgotten; my heartstrings, which are now touched with anguish, will then thrill with rapture; my friends which I

have lost will be restored, and my affection will be as pure and as lasting as the paradise, which we shall inhabit. The lovely flowers, which are now withered and gone, will be revived with increased beauty; no more will the fly and the rose, when sparkling with the morning dew, be an emblem of sorrowing virtue; for every eye will waft happiness, and every zephyr fragrance.

THE PROVERB OF A WISE MAN.
THE wise Theophrastus told his countrymen, that stratagem was the richest and most happy, who had found an amiable and virtuous wife. Socrates, however, was of a very different opinion. A young man once consulted him to know, whether he would advise him to marry or not; to whom Socrates thus replied, "Young man, whichever of the two evils you choose, you will most certainly have cause for repentance. If you should prefer celibacy, you will be solitary on the earth, you will never enjoy the pleasures of a parent; with thee will perish thy race, and a stranger will succeed to thy property. If you marry, expect constant chagrin and quarrels without end. Your wife will be constantly reproaching you of the dowry she brought thee; the pride of her parents and the garrulity of her mother will become insupportable. The gallantries of your wife will torment you with jealousy, and you will have reason to doubt the father of your reputed children. Now, young man, divine if thou canst, and choose if thou darest. This anecdote of Socrates I give on the authority of Valerius Maximus. Socrates was probably suffering from the stings and arrows of outrageous Xantippe, he was writhing under the pangs of des-

should love, when the young man unfortunately went to ask his opinion, and therefore it is not entitled to such respect. We agree with the wise Theognis and acknowledge that in the wide range of the bounties of heaven, there is no gift bestowed on man, deserving so much thankfulness, as that of a good wife. But what do you call good? Here is the difficulty—this is the knot—this the perplexity. I cannot tell what you and other men would like, but know exactly what would please such a curious kind of being as myself. I would never marry for money; for contracts of bargain and sale in matters of matrimony were invented by infernals for the deep damnation of man; they are legislations of wrong, and indentures of infamy. I should like well enough that my wife might be handsome, though this is a minor consideration; for real beauty is not to be found, and I care not to be hunting for it through city and country all the days of my life. The mild lustre of Phosphor is not seen in the face of the daughters of Eve, and where is the being who sheds soft beams from her eye, like those of the planet of evening? Let her person have the form of elegance, and the sweetness of purity; her dress

should be full of taste, and let her manners be those of a gentlewoman, for country simplicity is mere country awkwardness; and that I cannot away with. If her ancestors were not illustrious, I should hope that her family name might be respectable. Her disposition, I insist on this, must be gentle and soft, like the dew in the valleys of Languedoc; like the midnight-musick of romance from the battlements of Udolpho. She shall not be churlish, and peevish, and fretful, and scolding; but let her have good nature in full abundance, and kind words, looks, and smiles, plentiful and pleasant, as thick ripe wheat in autumn. Then her mind must be cultivated. This, too, is essential. She must love to read; she must be able to think, and have opinions of her own. I wish that she may relish the poets of England, love the morality of Johnson, the courtly sense of the Spectator, and that her soul may be attuned to the sweetest melody, by the wild warbling of the bard of Avon. She should read and remember the historians of Great Britain, and know what may be easily known of her own country. Lastly, and above all, she must study her bible, be a christian, and reverence her God.

POETRY.

EXTRACTS FROM "THE SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY," A LATE PUBLICATION BY REV. W. L. BOWLES.

[Except Burns and Cowper, the poet of the present day has been so generally admired as Mr. Bowles. The beautiful imagery and natural feeling, with which his poems abound, have found their way to the heart of those for whom poetry was written. The poem opens with the sailing of the ark upon Ararat.]

ALL was one waste of waves,
That bury'd deep
Earth and its multitude; the ark alone,
High on the cloudy van of Ararat,
Rested; for now the death-commis-
sion'd storm
Smak's silent, and the eye of day looks out
Dim through the haze, while short suc-
cessive gleams

Flit o'er the face of deluge as it shrinks,
Or the transparent rain-drops, falling few
Distinct, and larger glisten. So the ark
Rests upon Ararat; but nought around
Its inmates can behold, save o'er th'
expansive

Of boundless waters, the Sun's orient orb
Stretching the hull's long shadow, or
the Moon

In silence, through the silver-embur'd
clouds,

Sailing as she herself were lost, and left
In Nature's bowels.

But oh, sweet Hope,
Thou hidst a tear of holy extacy,
Start to their eye-lids, when at night
the Dove,

Weary returns, and lo! an olive leaf
Wet in her bill; again she is put forth,
When the seventh morn shines on the
hoar abyss:—

Due evening comes; her wings are
heard no more!

The dawn awakes, not cold and dripp-
ing sad,

But cheer'd with lovelier sunshine,
far away [ted peaks

The dark-red mountains slow their na-
Upheave above the waste: IMAUS
gleams:

Finds the huge torrent on his desert
sides;

Till at the awful voice of HIM WHO
RULES

THE STORE, the ancient father and his
train

On the dry land descend.

[The third book opens beautifully, in
Mr. Bowles's peculiar manner.]

My heart has sigh'd in secret, when
I thought

That the dark tide of time might one
day close,

England, o'er thee, as long since it has
close'd

On Egypt and on Tyre: that ages hence,
From the Pacific's billowy loneliness,
Whose track thy daring search reveal'd,
some isle

Might rise in green-haired beauty emi-
nent,

And like a goddess, glittering from the
deep,

Hereafter sway the sceptre of domain
From pole to pole; and such as now
thou art,

Perhaps New-Holland be. For who
shall say

What the Omnipotent Eternal One,
That made the world, hath purpos'd?

Thoughts like these,

Though visionary, rise; and sometimes
move

A moment's sadness, when I think of
thee,

My country, of thy greatness, and thy
name,

Among the nations; and thy character,
(Though some few spots be on thy flow-
ing robe)

Of loveliest beauty: I have never pass'd
Through thy green hamlets on the sum-
mer's morn,

Or heard thy sweet bells ring, or saw
the youths

And smiling maidens of the villag'ry
Gay in their Sunday tire, but I have said,

With passing tenderness, 'Live, happy
land,

Where the poor peasant feels, his shed
though small,

An independence and a pride, that fill
His honest heart with joy—joy such as
they

Who crowd the mart of men may never
feel.

Such England is thy boast: When I
have heard

The roar of Ocean bursting round thy
rocks,

Or seen a thousand thronging masts
aspire,

Far as the eye could reach, from every
port

Of every nation, streaming with their
flags

O'er the still mirror of the conscious
Thames.

Yes, I have felt a proud emotion swell
That I was British-born; that I had liv'd

A witness of thy glory, my most lov'd
And honour'd country; and a silent
prayer

Would rise to heav'n, that fame and
peace, and love

And liberty, would walk thy vales, & sing
Their holy hymns; whilst thy brays,
arm repell'd

Hostility, e'en as thy guardian rocks
Repel the dash of Ocean; which now
calls

Me, ling'ring fondly on the river's side,
On to my destined voyage; by the
shores

Of Asia, and the wreck of cities old,
Ere yet we burst into the wilder deep?

With Ganges; or the huge Atlantic
waste

With hold Columbus stem; or view
the bounds

Of field ice, stretching, to the southern
pole,

With thee, benevolent, but hapless Cook!

THE BOSTON REVIEW,

FOR

JULY, 1807.

*Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quæ commutanda, quæ
laudanda, erant. Nam ego distare sepe auctori. Neque ulli patientius re-
prehenduntur, quam qui maxima laudari merentur. PLIN.*

ARTICLE 40.

Reflections on the commerce of the Mediterranean, deduced from actual experience during a residence on both shores of the Mediterranean sea; containing a particular account of the traffick of the kingdoms of Algiers, Tunis, Sardinia, Naples, Sicily, the Moors, &c. with an impartial examination into the manners and customs of the inhabitants in their commercial dealings, and a particular description of the manufactures properly adapted for each country. By John Jackson, Esq. F.S.A. author of the Journey overland from India, &c. New-York, printed and sold by I. Riley & Co. 12mo. pp.152.

WORKS upon commerce and the facilities of trade, while they essentially promote the best interests of this country, generally obtain no other praise, than such as the author can claim for his industry and truth. Those facts, which are most important in the prosecution of traffick, are easily collected on the spot, and the conclusions to be drawn from them must depend, for their value, on mathematical calculations of profit. Men of genius therefore have seldom been employed in works upon trade, and men of business seldom have either leisure or literature enough

to produce them. The scarcity of such productions naturally heightens their value, and induces us to view with peculiar favour any work of such general usefulness, as the title of that under consideration would seem to imply. The commerce of the Mediterranean, in its common meaning and acceptation, has for a long time been prosecuted from the United States; but the coasting-trade, of trade from port to port in that sea, has only been occasionally practised, and perhaps never has been sufficiently understood. The advantages of profit, resulting to the few who have been engaged in it, have been rather concealed than unfolded; but they have evidently been sufficient to induce the original adventurers to continue the prosecution of the traffick. That investigation, which has for its objects the fullest development of the principles by which this trade is conducted, the customs of the various nations connected with it, and the productions of import and export, best calculated for the attention of a mercantile community, ought to demand strict examination.

This book was written by an Englishman, addressed to the Levant company, and is applicable in most of its principles, exclusively to the English trade. It cannot,

therefore, very materially concern the American merchant. Yet from our extended commerce with the Mediterranean, it may be found to contain many useful ideas, and facts important to our interest. In following our author, we shall touch upon those points which we consider most material to the extension of our own trade, and leave without comment those discussions, in which the English only are interested.

In his general reasoning our author is by no means remarkable for precision of expression, or clearness of idea; his style is often debased by inaccuracy, and his meaning confused, inadequate, or needless. The vanity of the author is also very apparent from various parts of his work. He seems to think, the nation will discover a mine of wealth, if they will but follow the course of his directions; he is enabled, he supposes, to rescue the character of the merchant from universal jealousy and degradation by the efforts of his pen, and to offer considerations to the British ministry on principles of policy, which, until he wrote, he imagines, had never been understood. Mr. Jackson strenuously endeavours to establish, as a principal point, the peculiar importance of the coasting-trade of the Mediterranean. This, we think, he has magnified much beyond its natural bearings, when he asserts, that it would be nearly as great, if pursued to its fullest extent, as the West-India trade of Great-Britain. Such an assertion does not consist with his details; in which he says merely, that 'two hundred bales, or even a whole ship's cargo of English manufactures, would not overstock the market of Tunis; the imports of which, he had just before set

up, as forming 'an inconsiderable part of the commerce of the Mediterranean.' The probability is, that the author has much enlarged the extent, to which this commerce might be carried; though there is little doubt, as he asserts, it has usually afforded a profit of 40 per cent.; that, to the merchants engaged in it, it has proved in the highest degree advantageous. But because this trade affords a large profit on a small capital, it does not follow, it will afford an equal profit on a large capital; and we think an accession of stock, so great as our author contemplates with such sanguine hopes of advantage, would prove detrimental, instead of beneficial. He says, 'above one hundred good sized ships, say above two hundred tons, may be employed between the Baltic and Mediterranean,' 'two hundred ships of the same burthen may be employed in carrying corn only in the Mediterranean, and there is sufficient employment for two hundred sail of ships of two hundred tons and upwards between the Mediterranean and the British empire, exclusive of those employed in the fish trade,' besides one thousand 'small vessels' and 'without including the trade of the Black sea.' These sweeping calculations do not seem to be warranted by any arguments arising from his details, or from any employment he is able to assign to so many tons of shipping. In most of the countries, whose trade he treats upon, the commerce appears limited, rather than extended; their markets are easily overstocked; and their articles of export, not being of general consumption, are comparatively of limited demand abroad. We should suppose therefore, that, so far from affording employment to one hundred

and eighty thousand tons of shipping, which is the aggregate of his calculations, it could not be capable of employing a tenth part of that amount. Indeed we cannot perceive what channel of trade would easily support the expense of even that quantity of tonnage. All the voyages which this trade can include may be completed in four months on an average, so that each vessel will perform three voyages annually. Taking this circumstance into view, there would arrive in the course of a year, in all the ports of the Mediterranean where the coasting trade is carried on, fifty-four thousand tons of shipping, even after deducting from Mr. Jackson's estimate nine-tenths of the amount of his calculation. This quantity of shipping will appear more than sufficient for all possible purposes of the trade, if it be observed, that commerce is not generally extensive in Algiers, Tunis, the Morea, or Sardinia—is attended with numerous obstructions throughout the Mediterranean—and in many places with some degree of danger. Most of the nations engaged in the traffick are thieves and rogues, according to our author's own account, consisting of 'Jews, who are numerous in all the Barbary states'; 'the Greeks, who compose a considerable part of the population of the northern shores of the Mediterranean'; and 'the Armenians, who enjoy the greatest part of Turkey in Asia, Arabia, Persia, and the major part of the caravan trade.' These nations pay no respect to their engagements; will plunder you when they have an opportunity; and murder you for safety or revenge. We think the author has been led to his conclusions rather from his wishes, than his calculations; and we are

compelled to discredit such positive assertions, as either are not enforced by particular arguments, or carry every symptom of improbability upon the face of them.

But while we pass over his ideas of a general nature, as nugatory and inconsistent, we are willing to pay more respect to his minuteness of detail which appears to contain information in its nature practical and advantageous. The trade of the Barbary powers, according to our author, has of late been much encouraged, especially in Tunis; and the articles of corn, oil, soap, and wool, are those which principally employ the attention of the Tunisians. Oil is an article, which is most to be preferred at Susa, because it is of a better quality there, than at any other part in Tunis, and a vessel can be more readily loaded. The season for shipping the oil is from November unto January; it is shipped by contract with the Kyas, who are honourable in their dealings: It is sent to France either in jars or casks, and some of it finds its way to England under the name of Gallipoli. They can load a ship at Susa of three hundred tons burthen in a week.

The article of soap fetches in price from eighteen to twenty-five piastres per quintal. Great quantities are shipped from Minorca, Majorca, the coast of Spain, and part of Italy. Mr. Jackson supposes the hard Barbary soap would answer well for the North American market. In enforcing the argument of benefit from an attention to a trade in soap, he observes, that 'this article alone is one of the most profitable branches of the American trade,' 'it is taken chiefly to the southern states, and then sent over all the West-India islands.' This is not absolutely an

erroneous assertion. Soap indeed is not very frequently imported from the Mediterranean to this part of the country as formerly, but the southern states still continue to import. The quantity of American manufactured soap, however, has lessened the price, as well as the demand of that from abroad, and the cost of foreign soap has, latterly, increased; so that Mr. Jackson's propositions must be taken with allowances.

Wool is shipped in abundance from Barbary to France, and is considered a most beneficial branch of the French commerce. The French however, it must be observed, have been lately in the habit of raising their own wool, which has contributed not a little to diminish this trade.

From Barbary our author conducts us to Sardinia, an island of which, although the name is very familiar, very little is known. He enlarges on the advantages of a commerce that might be carried on there; but we cannot discover any traits of character in the inhabitants, which would be likely to favour it. He confesses the people to be in a most degraded state of society. 'The men dress in goat-skins with the hair outwards, one skin before and the other behind, having neither breeches, shoes, nor stockings. They wear a woollen or skin cap upon the head, and never shave the beard nor comb the hair.' 'The women dress in a gown, which reaches to the ankles, and like the men have neither shoes, nor stockings, and they wear a woollen cap.' 'The Sardinians are mere savages, who prey upon travellers; but, though thieves and murderers by profession, they are attached to their king and country. In the

towns there is less brutality of manners, but there exists an almost equal degree of ignorance. Sardinia exports grain, salt, goat-skins, brandy, and barilla, and employs much capital in the tunny-fishery. Calari, in Mr. Jackson's opinion, is one of the best places in the Mediterranean to load with salt. It costs 'sixpence the English hundred, free on board,' and 'any number of ships may always be sure of getting cargoes.'

Under the head of *Sicily* our author gives some important directions respecting the purchase of barilla and brimstone, and 'on the economy of loading a ship for a foreign voyage.' His principle is, 'the higher the centre of gravity is raised, the easier the ship will be in all her motions at sea,' which we suppose is sufficiently apparent to all our navigators. He also enumerates many articles of advantageous traffick; but the trade of Sicily and Naples is so well understood by American merchants, that it would be needless to follow him particularly. The exports of barilla, and vegetable oil for manufactories, to the French, Spanish, Portuguese, and other northern ports, as well as England; and of sulphur, with which Sicily supplies England and a great part of the rest of the world, make the principal part of the trade of this island.

The English trade of the *Morea* and *Archipelago* is under the direction of the Levant Company, and precludes all prospect of individual success. This trade, together with that of the Black Sea, deserves the attention of the American merchant. They export vast quantities of cotton, fustick, beef and other salted provisions, olive oil, and valonia. These articles are

carried to the western ports, and the manufactories of France and Spain.

Throughout his details, it is evident, the author is a man acquainted with the subject of his investigation. In his tables of coins, weights and measures, and his account of the customs and qualities of goods, he may be thought by some to descend to a tedious and unnecessary particularity. But it should be considered, that, in this very minuteness, the most valuable commercial information is to be sought: and we think, if his accuracy bears any proportion to his enumeration of facts, that Mr. Jackson's book will be found exceedingly useful for mercantile reference. There is also much miscellaneous information to be collected from various parts of this work. We quote the following account of the method of packing provisions in the hottest season, as an example of his style and intelligence:

At Tunis we had a great many ships victual, in the hottest season; we had not only to provide for their daily expenditure, but also to lay in a large sea stock, which if not effectually cured in a very few hours, the whole would be inevitably lost. We killed upwards of forty bullocks in the hottest season, and, by observing the following method, never spoiled one ounce of meat.

The animal should be killed as quietly as possible; the best method of killing a bullock is by thrusting a sharp-pointed knife into the spinal marrow, behind the horns, when the bullock will immediately fall, without any struggle; then cut the arteries about the heart. As soon as he is skinned, and quartered, begin to cut up in six pound pieces, not larger, particularly the thick parts.

Take half a pound of black pepper, half a pound of red or Cayenne pepper, half a pound of the best saltpetre, all beat or ground very fine; mix these three well together, then mix them

with about three quarts of very fine salt: this mixture is sufficient for eight hundred weight of beef. As the pieces are brought from the person cutting, first sprinkle the pieces with the spice, and introduce a little into all the thickest parts; if it cannot be done otherwise, make a small incision with a knife. The first salter, after rubbing salt and spice well into the meat, should take and mould the piece, the same as washing a shirt upon a board; this may be very easily done, and the meat being lately killed, is soft and pliable; this moulding opens the grain of the meat, which will make it imbibe the salt and spice much quicker than the common method of salting. The first salter hands his piece over to the second salter, who moulds and rubs the salt well into the meat, and if he observes occasion, introduces the spice; when the second salter has finished his piece, he folds it up as close as possible, and hands it to the packer at the harness tubs, who must be stationed near him; the packer must be careful to pack his harness tubs as close as possible.

All the work must be carried on in the shade, but where there is a strong current of air, the harness tubs in particular; this being a very material point in curing the meat in a hot climate. Meat may be cured in this manner with the greatest safety, when the thermometer in the shade is at 110°, the extreme heat assisting the curing.

A good sized bullock of six or seven hundred weight, may be killed and salted within the hour.

The person who attends with the spice near the first salter has the greatest trust imposed upon him; besides the spice, he should be well satisfied that the piece is sufficiently salted, before he permits the first salter to hand the piece over to the second salter.

All the salt should be very fine, and the packer, besides sprinkling the bottom of his harness tubs, should be careful to put plenty of salt between each tier of meat, which is very soon turned into the finest pickle. The pickle will nearly cover the meat as fast as the packer can stow it away. It is always a good sign that the meat is very safe, when the packer begins to complain that his hands are aching with cold.

It is better to kill the bullocks on board a ship, than on shore; in all hot climates there is generally a land or sea

breeze, the ship will of course ride head to wind; and by spreading an awning over the decks, there will be a thorough current of air, which increases the evaporation, the cause of the extreme cold.

By this method there is no doubt that the meat is perfectly cured in three hours from the time of killing the bullock: the saltpetre in a very little time strikes through the meat; however, it is always better to let it lie in the harness tubs till the following morning, when it will have an exceeding pleasant smell on opening the harness tubs, when take it out and pack it in tight barrels, with its own pickle.

PRIME BEEF.

For cabin or particular private use, take the thick flanks, briskets, and tops of the ribs, and after curing them as we have described, add a little clay sugar, with pimento, which serves to give it a very rich flavour.

These parts should be packed in kegs, about sixty pound each, and when packed to be preserved any length of time, should be in its own pickle, which is much better than any made pickle.

Provisions cured in this manner will keep during the longest voyages, are more wholesome and more palatable than any other, and a sure preventive against the scurvy, partly owing to the spices that are made use of in the curing; and also, that a careful cook may always make good soup from this meat, as the salt is very easily extracted; for the same operation which served to impregnate the meat with the salt, will also serve to extract it. p. 70-74.

ART. 41.

Q. Horatii Flacci Carmina Expar-
gata cum notis Jos. Juvenstii, et
aliorum.

Nemo sabbthe pure
Pectore verba, pass. Val. H. H.
Horatius in quibusdam notis inser-
pretari, et subasp. Quat.
Cambridge, apud Gulielmum
Hilliard, 1806. 8vo. pp. 546.

Especially project for discussing the
study of classical literature in our
country we receive with gratula-

tion. Convinced, as we are, that all true taste will be best cultivated in the ancient soils, that the most valuable specimens of natural simplicity and refined thought are transplanted, or produced, by engrafting on our rude stock the scions of a happier climate, we have called and shall call with a loud voice for every encouragement, that individuals or the publick can bestow. It would be foolish to assert, that no one has ever thought correctly, or written well; whose mind was not imbued with ancient lore; but the history of letters assures us, that the instances are rare. Original genius sometimes vindicates its superiority from the deficiencies of education, as the generous spirit of Achilles could not long be concealed by his feminine habiliments:—but the grace of fine-writing in poetry or prose; that ease, which every man, before the experiment, is confident he could equal; that justness of thought and propriety of expression, so distinguishable at a second reading from violent paradox and tawdry decoration, that may mislead at the first; that indescribable charm, diffused over the humour of Addison, like a thin Heecy cloud upon the surface of the sun; mitigating its ardour, but not lessening its radiance; all are derivable from early, and frequent, and enthusiastick study of the Grecian and the Latin Muses.

Nocturna veritate mane, veritate diurna.
Read them by day, and study them by
night.

Of interesting authors how few
can we name, who owe not their
best education to the ancients!
Shakespeare, Burns, and who shall
complete the triumvirate? One of
the most correct scholars of modern
Europe is the most sublime of her

wards. Even amid his holy con-
templations near

Siloa's brook, that flow'd
Fist by the oracle of God,

his thoughts frequently wandered
without impiety to the Ilyssus and
the Mincio.

A great critick has said, Plu-
tarch was the last of the ancient
books, he would lose: but the
claim of Horace to that honour
would be supported on his own
criterion of excellence, 'delectan-
do pariterque monendo,' by equal
numbers and with greater fervour.
In his essay on the writings and
genius of Pope, Jo. Warton, a
gentleman and a scholar, says,
'Horace is the most popular au-
thor of all antiquity. The reason
is, because he abounds in images,
drawn from familiar life, and in
remarks, that come home to men's
business and bosoms. Hence he is
more frequently quoted and alluded,
than any poet of antiquity.' Like
our own Pope, Horace is preemi-
nently the poet of common sense.

The strongest confirmation of
this is the frequent republication
of his works. According to Dr.
Douglas, famous for his library,
and celebrated by Goldsmith, as
'the scourge of impostors, the ter-
ror of quacks,' before the year
1739 four hundred and fifty edi-
tions of Horace had appeared; and
several of the most valuable have
been published since. The first
classical work from the press,
Cicero's Offices, was probably
printed in 1465 at Meats by the
famous Faustus, who has errone-
ously been thought the inventor of
the art. Horace was ushered into
publick in 1470.

In our country classical books
are in some demand, yet they
have seldom been republished;
and we know of only one edition

of an ancient, in the true meaning
of the word, issued from the Amer-
ican press. It was printed at
Salem, and a favourable character
of it may be found in our Anthol-
ogy, Vol. II. p. 549. We expect
indeed, if subscriptions are nume-
rous enough, (and certainly the
publick are bound to encourage
such rare merit) an edition of Ti-
ballus, by the care of a gentleman
of this town, that will reflect hon-
our on the *sis-atlantick* press.

The work now under review is
from the press of the neighbouring
University, and is adopted, as part
of the course of study, in that sem-
inary.

This edition of Horace was under-
taken for the use of students at Har-
vard University. The consideration of
the pernicious tendency, in a moral
view, which certain obscene expres-
sions and allusions of this otherwise ex-
cellent author might have, induced the
governours of the University to procure
the publication of this expurgated edi-
tion, as a substitute for that, hitherto
used, which is entire. An expurgated
edition, printed at London 1784, with
the notes of Jos. Juvenius and others,
in which every indecent passage ap-
pears to have been carefully suppress-
ed, has been taken for its model. To
this it conforms in almost every particu-
lar; omitting the same offensive pas-
sages, and adopting, in general, the
same reading of the text, and the same
notes. A few alterations however have
been made in the text, agreeably to
the reading of the French edition by Va-
lart; and some notes have been reject-
ed, and some new ones, chiefly from
the edition *in sum Delphini*, have
been added. The punctuation also is
on a plan somewhat different from that,
generally received; the colon being
altogether neglected. The reasons for
this departure from the common meth-
od of pointing were, that the use of the
colon is very unsettled and irregular,
and that the other three points are suf-
ficient, it is apprehended, to answer
every purpose of correct punctuation.
Advertisement to the Cambridge
edition, page 3.

The London publication of 1784 was only for boys; and we believe no young gentleman, arrived at years of discretion, and only such should be admitted at the university, will need this castigated edition for the safeguard of his morals. The vulgarities of Horace are so disgusting, as to shock rather than allure; and they are besides of infrequent occurrence, and difficult to be explained. It is indeed a poor compliment to the ingenious minds of the students, and the omission may have the bad tendency of setting them to study in other editions the worthless, but mysterious passages, which, if found in their own, would be neglected and despised.

We regret too, that our alma mater, in adopting this schoolmaster's publication, has transcribed also his advertisement, and offered one of her own besides in the common language of a newspaper. Why did she not tax the talents of one of her many learned sons, and preserve us from the deep and lasting disgrace of an English preface to a Latin classic?

The first castrated edition, of which we find mention in any catalogue, (and often in catalogues alone will the poverty of our country afford the means of ascertaining the dates of literary works) is by Jos. Juvencius, a Jesuit, Paris, 1736, 3 vols. 12mo.; and it has been several times reprinted. The London copy above mentioned, we have not been able to procure; but we have before us one printed at Rouen, 1757.

These editions are not common in our country, and we need not desire them. Should we admit the utility of expunging a few lines from our school editions, of the classics, we must blame that ferocious passion for decency, that

has unmercifully annihilated some of the finest passages, 'lines, that a virgin without blush might read.' In this Jesuit Horace more is omitted than in the 18mo. edition of Didot, examined by a correspondent in our Anthology for February last. The publisher was certainly infected with the madness of Jack, who, tearing off his embroidery, rent the cloth with it. 'Ah, good brother Martin,' said he, 'do as I do, for the love of God; strip, tear, pull, rend, flay off all.'

Of the omissions from this volume we may conclude by recollecting, that to have translated the 9th Ode of Lib. 3 (one of the proscribed) was never imputed to bishop Atterbury as an insult to society, or an offence against religion. That version we could not easily procure; but we have one of the famous 5th Ode of Lib. 1, which will shew the ardour for reform in these castigated editions. Let any student of the university read from Milton's works, if he can without danger to his temporal and eternal interests, 'Quis multa gracilis te puer in rosa, rendered almost word for word without rhyme, according to the Latin measure, as near as the language will permit.'

What slender youth bedew'd with liquid
odours

Courts thee on roses in some pleasant
cave,

Pyrrha? for whom bind'st thou

In wreaths thy golden hair,

Plain in thy neatness? O how oft

shall he

On faith and changed Gods complain,

And seas

Rough with black winds and storms

Unwonted shall admire!

Who now enjoys thee credulous, all

gold,

Who always vacant always amiable

Hopes thee, of flattering gales

Unsuccessful. Helpless they

To whom thou natry'd'st *scare'st* fair. Me
 in my vow'd
 Picture the sacred wall declares t' have
 hung
 My dank and dropping weeds
 To the stern God of sea.

Thus far, it will be seen, our objections are general to all the mutilated editions. The unhappy subject before us is thus far only culpable with others; but he has also committed an offence in the solitary instance, in which his conduct differs from his predecessors. His sole claim to originality is founded on a fault, the banishment of colons. The lawful claims of this branch of the family of punctuation have often been opposed in America. A professor in the neighbouring University, whose talents, usefully employed for many years, we remember with gratitude, was inimical to them; and many of his pupils have perhaps thoughtlessly joined his banners in the warfare. A powerful auxiliary to the misocolon party has just appeared in the person of the philologist of Connecticut, of whom we can hardly discover, whether he is more ingenious in pursuit of novelties, or ardent in opposition to the ancient landmarks of language. The divided empire has been allotted, in imagination, partly to the semicolon, and partly to the period: but the colon's rights are not to be overthrown by such combatants, while he is supported by the whole host of the literati. This point, we know, is often improperly used, and may sometimes give way to the pretenders without injury to the sense; but in many cases its use is indispensable. Let any of these reformers of punctuation read two pages of Milton, and change the colon for the other stops in every instance, if they can. There is hardly a page

without it, and in most of the passages it ought to be preserved. In that admirable sentence, beginning at l. 192 of B. 1 of Paradise Lost, must the colons be changed in lines 202, 208, 210? We prefer to read the comparison, and the subject of comparison, in one period. Vide 311. Again,

Such applause was heard
 As Mammon ended; and his sentence
 pleas'd,
 Advising peace: for such another field
 They dreaded worse than hell: so
 much the fear
 Of thunder, and the sword of Michael
 Wrought still within them.

After peace and hell, in this passage, some would have periods; but we think the sense and the sentences are better continued together. Punctuation is not arbitrary, as is sometimes said by those, who never studied it. Men may think in such an artificial manner, as to supersede the use of colons; but variety of style requires sentences of various length, and colons then become necessary.

What wild work has reformation made in the volume under review! Who will not see, that the colon is more proper in Od. 1. 17. Take a rule for the use of colons from modest Murray:— 'when a member of a sentence is complete in itself, but followed by some supplemental remark, or further illustration of the subject, and apply it, in Od. 7. 31.

*Os fortes, peforaeque passi
 Mecum. anpe viri, nunc vino pellite cu-*

*744.]
 Cras ingens iterabimus aequor.*

Surely the antithesis between *nunc* and *cras* forbids the period, used in the volume before us. When Od. 7 is quoted by us, the number refers to the perfect, not to the mutilated edition. Another instance of the horror of colons is

in Ode 18, 27. As Ode 19 is omitted, we know not whether the period or the semicolon would have usurped the place in line 5. The most glaring proof of the impropriety of the innovation is found in Od. 7. of Lib. 4, usually printed

Diffugere nives, redeunt jam gramina
campis,
Arboribusque comae;
Mutat terra vices, et decrepantis ripae
Flumina praetereunt:
Gratia cum Nymphis geminisque sacer-
dotibus audent
Ducere nuda choros.

But our Cambridge editor coldly stops the current of the description by periods at the second and fourth lines.

From the fanciful irregularity of the Lyric, however, the haters of colons might appeal to more sober composition.

Maxima pars vatum, pater, et juvenes
patre digni,
Decipimur specie recti: brevis esse
labor,
Obscurus se: sectantem levia nervi
Deficiunt animique: profusus grandia,
target:
Serpit humi tutus nimium timidusque
procellæ.

Who does not prefer this one sentence, as it is, rather than cut up into five little ones, as he may find it in the subject of our review? Still worse is the punctuation at lines 4 and 5 of Epode 2. But in Lib. 4. Ode 5, which is the 4th Ode in this mutilated edition, the extreme of absurdity is gained. The sentence, composed of eight lines, beginning at the 17th, is divided into eight different periods by full stops at the end of each line.

Nor is it only of the want of colons, that we must complain. What is wanting on one side is most amply compensated on another. For a superfluity of commas we think the beginning of Ode 4. Lib. 3. is admirably ridiculous.

Decore 'Celo, et, sic, æge, colla,
Regina, longæque, Calliope, mebe,

Now the printer's devil could have hardly done worse; had his master told him, he might put a comma, where he pleased, unless he had sprinkled them after every letter. Read those lines with a pause at each comma, and how does it sound. The word, et, has suddenly become very important, and figures away with its aids-de-camp commas, as proud as the first of the Muses.

Of such instances we might continue to quote enough to fatigue ourselves, and weary our readers. But we must turn to another lamentable labour, the examination of the notes. We rejoice indeed, that the 'Ordo' or interpretation is wiped away; yet at the bottom of the page we too often find that officious kindness, which, in the Delphin editions, greets us in the margin. On the very first page the first and second notes contradict each other, and both are wrong. *Curriculum* means the ground, and not the chariot. Was there ever a baby entered at the University, who wanted a note to inform him, that the Mediterranean sea is meant in Ode 3. Book 2?

Quæ mediis liquor
Secernit Europæ ab Afris.

See too in Ode 29. Lib. id. ver. 44. *deceptate* explained, *tertius ferrens imperator*. The boy, who needs this annotation, should have his brain stimulated by an application to his rear. Much ingenuity is however exhibited in the improvement of Gesner's note on *argutus*, Ep. 2. Lib. 3. vers. 90. G. says, '*argutus*: canoros, sublimis'; the Cambridge book, '*argutus*; canoros; subiles.' After stealing the boy,

* Good editions use a small letter, 'colo.'

'twas easiest to alter the dress. In line 370. de Arte Po. Horace says :

Atque ipsi ~~plures~~ Plautinos et numeros et Laudaverunt sales.

Who would have looked for an order of genealogy in the explanation of *proavi*? 'Est his arde, pater, avus, proavus, abavus, atavus,' and so on, all the way down the ladder, as well as up. Let the student examine his dictionary, and nine-tenths of his notes will be useless.

One other disagreeable occurrence has just struck us, the Art of Poetry is introduced by an English preface. Ohe jam satis!

The errors of the press also are abundant. Was not the anecdote, recorded by the Hon. Topham Beauclerk in his copy of the Glasgow Horace, known at Cambridge? 'This is an immaculate edition; the sheets, as they were printed, were hung up in the college of Glasgow, and a reward was offered to those, who should discover an inaccuracy.' This edition, the best of all by Foulis, we have before us, and could have been well consulted, had our University reprinted it. Its size is not one third so large, as the work we are now reviewing, and its value—but gold and sand are not to be compared. If any other work is to be reprinted at Cambridge, we hope the language of Aldus, nearly three hundred years ago, may be recollected with effect: *Esti spero in magno fas est charta perennium (non enim unicus dies hic labor est noster, and multorum honorum, atque incerta nec mea, nec regies) sic tamen, delectat ut ei possem, summum singula errata nequam arguo.*

Of punctuation we shall not note what may seem errors of

the press, for we know not, that they are not produced by design, and thought to be justified by rule. Without such we can gather a plentiful harvest of errata.

LIB. I.

Ode 1. 25. *iam* for *Jove*.

.. 35. *ignores*—*insensis* in the best readings.

Ode 2. 2. *pater*—*Pater*; for *Icek* at l. 15. and *Regis* has a capital, and shall the Father of Gods and men be without?

.. 19. should have the first syllable of the next line.

Ode 4. 2. the best editions read *agna* and *add* in the ablative.

.. 16. Horace wrote *Nec regna*, &c. but as the following lines are omitted in this book; the word was necessarily changed.

Ode 9. 14. *ars* for *ars* in the best critics.

.. 15. *Camenas* for *amores*. O the prudery of the Jesuits!

Ode 10. 14. *relicta* for *relicta*, *Ilion* being generally neuter.

Ode 12. 5. *rupe* for *stus*, in all good or bad editions within our reach.

.. 31. The old reading seems preferable in compliment to *Castor* and *Pulchur*, and the emendation of Bentley, though received by a few, does not compensate for its inelegance by its perspicuity.

.. 45. If this punctuation do not degrade the meaning, we think the idea of Horace is to be praised, and not the rule of the Cambridge editor. Most copies, we believe,

read: *Quercus, omissa, velut, arbor, arvo, Fama, Marcelli.*

What then shall we say to the cotermans changing their places and following *essulle* and *arbor*?

Ode 13. 14. *Es*, and in the note *Es*. The letter is wrong, and the note absurd.

Ode 22, wonderful to relate, closes like the same Ode in other editions.

Dulce ridentem Lalagen amabo,
Dulce loquentem.

It was found then, that one correction at least of these castrated editions was ridiculous. The French Horatii Expurgata above mentioned has, instead of those lines, foisted in :

Sola me virtus dabit usque tutam,
Sola beatum.

We hope, if this work be ever republished for the use of the University, some other equally delicate passages may be restored to their proper places. The Roman Catholic clergy are forbidden to love ; but it is no sin among Protestants.

Ode 24. 19. *sit* for *fit* by all editions, we believe.

Ode 28. 18. *avidis* for *avidum* in the best readings.

LIB. II.

Ode 3. 26. *urna* is in the ablative, *sors* the nominative, and the punctuation would lead to a mistake of the plain sense.

Ode 13. 23. *descriptas* for *discretas*. Vide not. Ges.

Ode 15. 16. *arcton* for *Arcton*.

LIB. III.

Ode 19. 12. *Miscentor* for *Miscentur*.

Ode 24. 23. The period should be a comma.

.. 24. The more elegant reading is *iretium emori*.

Ode 27. 35 to 49. Part of the pathetick bewailing of Europa is omitted, against which even the scrupulous chastity of Didot did not exclaim. We hope the morals even of the students of the University will not be contaminated by the quotation.

Unde ! quo veni ! levis una mors est
Virginum culpa. Vigilans ne ploro
Turpe commissum ? an vitiiis carentem
Ludit imago

Vana, quæ porta fugiens eburna
Somnium ducit ? melissæ fluctus
Ire per longos fuit, an recentes
Carpere flores ?

Si quis infamem mihi nunc juvenum
Dedat irata ! lacerare ferro et
Frangere enitar modo multum amati
Cornua monstri.

LIB. IV.

Ode 4. 28. *Neronis* for *Neronæ*, unless it be a new reading, adapted to the level of the lowest capacities. The line too should end with a period, unless there were some artful design in the typesetter.

Ode 6. 19. *latentes*, for *latentem* by the best editions, and with good reason.

Ode 11. 19. *mens* for *meus*.

Epode 2. 51. *eois* for *Eois*.

Epode 5. 6. *adfuit* for *affuit*, certainly the more elegant formation.

Epode 17. 45. *dementia* for *dementia*. We observe here, that we do not approve the division of this Ode into two, as in the book before us.

Car. Sæc. 27. *servat* for *servet*, according to the best critics. Nor are we pleased to have this poem numbered among the Epodes. It is universally known by its title.

LIB. I.

Sat. 1. 50. *viventis* for *vivent* in most copies.

LIB. II.

Sat. 1. 16. *Attaman* for *Attamen*.
Sat. 2. 2. *quæ* is a better reading than *quem*.

.. 29. *hec* for *hac*.

Sat. 3. 136. *jugula* for *jugulo*.

.. 215. *nata* for *nata*.

Sat. 4. 41. *carmen* for *carnem* ; a sad mistake.

Sat. 4. 57. is omitted by sheer carelessness, we believe.

.. 73. *alex* for *alec*. Vide Sat. 8. 9. and note.

Sat. 5. 28. More carelessness, the word *locuples* omitted.

LIB. I.

Epist. 1. 90. *teniam* for *teneam*.

Epist. 2. 8. *regem* for *regum*.

.. 21. *multu* for *multa*.

Epist. 3. 26. *fomente* for *fomenta*.

Epist. 5. 27. *conviva* for *puella*; a sacrifice to the passion for decency.

Epist. 8. 7. More carelessness, the word *minus* omitted.

Epist. 10. 22. *Parias* for *varias*.

Epist. 14. 33. *Quem scis immunem Cinaræ placuisse rapaci* being omitted, the next line is necessarily changed to admit the verb.

Epist. 18. 37. *Illius* for *illius*.

Epist. 19. 37. *suffragio* for *suffragia*.

Epist. 20. 26. careless omission of *te* after *quis*.

LIB. II.

Epist. 2. 172. *cuiquam* for *quidquam*.

ART. PO.

Note upon *Ampullas*, the French *sentimens* for *sentimens*.

Line 113. *tellent* for *tollent*.

.. 114. *Divus* for *Dāvus*, and part of the note is absurd.

.. 294. *Præsectum* is much better than *Perfectum*, vid. not.

.. 360. the emendation of Bentley, *operi longo*, is generally received.

.. 361. It indicates, we think, wonderful obliquity of judgment, if any man has seen the later reading *Ut pictura, poesis; erit quæ, &c.* to prefer the dull old one, as in this volume.

With pain and regret have we proceeded at every step in this examination of a book, printed under

the auspices of the first university in America, of a university, whose prosperity we ardently desire, in whose honour we are deeply concerned. But it must be understood, that the character of the institution is no ways concerned, except in adopting the plan; for the defects of the execution we lament the bad fortune in selecting an agent, if any agent was employed besides the printer.

About the utility of castigated editions, various opinions may well be entertained; but of this book the publick voice will be undivided. *Fiat justitia*. Let it be forgotten in the history of American typography. Its clumsy shape (a half-starved octavo) its vicious text, its infantine notes, the incalculable absurdities of its punctuation, all unite to render it worthy to carry, as Horace says,

.... in vicum vendentem thus et odores,
Et piper, et quicquid chartis amicitur
ineptis.

ART. 42.

Ballads and lyrical pieces. By Walter Scott, Esq. Boston, published and sold by Etheridge & Bliss, No. 12, Cornhill; sold also by said Etheridge, Charlestown. 1807. 12mo.

THESE ballads have been already published in different collections: some in the *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, others in the *Tales of Wonder*, and some in both these miscellanies. They are here first collected into one volume. The 'Songs' have been written at various times for the musical collections of Mr. George Thomson, and Mr. White. The imitative style in which they are written, being chiefly in that, which is technically

called the *Scottish style*, has been zealously pursued for the last nine years, that no less than *thirty-three* volumes of this description have been published in London and Dublin, as will appear by the catalogues. Few of these are inferior in size to that under review. We notice also seven volumes of *Ancient Ballads*. How many others may have escaped our search we cheerfully leave for the investigation of those, who have more time and better inclination than ourselves. Most of the articles which go to make this a volume, have been already reviewed in other publications, and some of them have been re-printed in this. They have generally received a favourable character; of which we are not willing to deprive them. But it is to be understood that this character was gained by reviews of the *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, and the *Tales of Wonder*, in which they appeared. In that collection they passed most creditably to the author, and were there entitled to much comparative praise. It seemed the best opportunity which the author could have found for introducing them to the world; and perhaps the only one which he should have adopted. But why must they be collected and printed in a separate volume? There are not books enough; they must be multiplied. There are in this pamphlet eight ballads and five songs. We are a little surprised that the ballads were not printed 'separately.' The ballads and songs would make two very neat volumes in 4to or 8vo, and a third volume of notes might be added or if the editor pleases, he may print the title page separately. We look forward to the day when this plan will be virtually carried into effect; when each of these

eight ballads and five songs, already printed in two or three other publications, will 'separately' first appear in a neat volume.

Although we are a little vexed with this superfluous multiplication of books—this *invasion* of bibliothical traffick—we are ready to acknowledge, that in some of these ballads and lyrical pieces, there are 'starts of fancy,' and ideas 'most poetically dressed.' Some of these, we will take the liberty to select, as much for the gratification of our readers, who do not possess the *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border* in three volumes, and the *Tales of Wonder* in two, and the *Musical Collections* of Mr. George Thomson, and those of Mr. White, &c. &c. as in justice to Walker Scott, Esq.

In his ballad entitled the *Grey Brother*, there is this beautiful description:

Sweet are the paths, oh, passing sweet!
By Eske's fair streams that run,
O'er airy steep, thro' copsewood deep,
Impervious to the sun.

There the rapt poet's step may rove,
And yield the muse the day;
There beauty, led by timid love,
May shun the tell-tale ray;

From the fair dome, where suit is paid,
By blast of bugle free,
To Auchindunny's hazel glade,
And haunted Woodhouselee.

Who knows, &c.

From the ballad of Cadyow Castle, addressed to the right honourable lady Anne Hamilton, we must extract two verses.

Thro' the huge oaks of Evandale,
Whose limbs a thousand years have
worn

What sullen roar comes down the gale,
And drowns the hunter's pealing horn.

Mightiest of all the beasts of chase,
That roars in woody Caledon.

Crashing the forest in his race,
The mountain bull comes thundering
on.

The curious reader, who prefers plain latin prose to english poetry, will be attracted to the history of this animal by *Lesleus, Scotia descriptio*, page 13.

For the remaining selection we were about to refer our readers to the volume ; but upon reperusing it, we are tempted to transcribe it, and sincerely hope that they will derive as much pleasure from reading as we experience in copying it.

THE DYING BARD.

I.

Dinas Emlinn, lament ; for the moment
is sigh
When mute in the woodlands thine
echoes shall die :
No more by sweet Teivi Cadwallon
shall rave,
And mix his wild notes with the wild
dashing wave.

II.

In spring and in autumn thy glories of
shade,
Unhonour'd shall flourish, unhonour'd
shall fade ;
For soon shall be lifeless the eye and
the tongue
That view'd them with rapture, with
rapture that sung.

III.

Thy sons, Dinas Emlinn, may march in
their pride,
And chase the proud Saxon from Pres-
tatyn's side ;
But where is the harp shall give life to
their name !
And where is the bard shall give heroes
their fame ?

IV.

And oh, Dinas Emlinn ? thy daughters
so fair,
Who heave the white bosom, and wave
the dark hair ;
What wretched enthusiast shall worship
their eye,
When half of their charms with Cad-
wallon shall die ?

V.
Then adieu, silver Teivi ! I quit thy
lov'd scene,
To join the dim choir of the bards
who have been :
With Lewarch, and Meilor, and Merr
in the old,
And sage Tallessin, high harping to
hold.

VI.

And adieu, Dinas Emlinn ! still green
be thy shades,
Unconquer'd thy warriors, and match-
less thy maids !
And thou, whose faint warblings my
weakness can tell,
Farewell ; my lov'd harp, my last trea-
sure, farewell !

ARTICLE 23.

(Continued.)

Memoirs of Dr. Joseph Priestley, to the year 1795, written by himself, with a continuation to the time of his decease, by his son, Joseph Priestley : and observations on his writings, by Thomas Cooper, president judge of the 4th district of Pennsylvania : and the Rev. William Christie. Northumberland, Penn. printed by J. Binns. 1806.

THE first appendix contains a succinct account of the 'discoveries in factitious airs before the time of Dr. Priestley, and of those made by himself.' On these has been founded the pneumatic theory, and the name of Priestley will always be associated with the new principles of chemistry. The simplicity of his experiments, and the accuracy of his inductions on the subjects which he has investigated, have left little room to his successors to doubt the former or correct the latter. It is remarkable, however, that this philosopher, who, with Cavendish and Scheele, has laid the foundation of most of the modern improvements in the science of chemistry, should have continued, till his death, the only

solitary instance of a constant adherence to the exploded doctrine of Stahl. Dr. Priestley was early convinced of the apparently partial application of the new theory to the explanation of chemical phenomena, and this conviction induced him, perhaps too hastily, to reject its principles, and to advocate the doctrine of phlogiston. If we mistake not, however, he was more successful in opposing the theories of others, than in establishing his own. It is true, that there exist some phenomena, which do not admit of an easy solution on the principles of the new school. But these are by no means in direct contradiction to its general principles; and the difficulty of explaining their actions results rather from the imperfect state of the science, than from any positive failure in their application. It is only necessary to recollect the names of Cavendish, of Black, of Lavoisier, and of Fourcroy, to be convinced, that the new theory of chemistry is not merely the speculation of ingenious minds, but a fair induction from facts and the nature of things. To comprehend the extent, and appreciate the value of Dr. Priestley's discoveries, the editors have prefixed a short account of those of his predecessors. The claims of these men were forgotten with their writings, till more modern discoveries gave strength to the former, and currency to the latter. They were then sought after with avidity, for the labours of the pneumatic chemists were said to have been superceded by the experiments of Jean Rey, of Mayow, of Boyle, and of Dr. Hooke. The editors have given additional interest to the appendix, by the insertion of a concise account of the works of Mayow, which we do not recollect to have seen so complete-

ly analysed by any other writer. From this it appears, that though he was evidently acquainted with the composition of the atmosphere, and of nitre; though he explained the uses of the air in respiration, and demonstrated the existence of the same gas, which was denominated dephlogisticated by Priestley, and oxygen by Lavoisier, he considered them rather as insulated facts, than a part of a great system, which his genius, though acute, was unable to develope. With these writings, say his biographers, Dr. Priestley was unacquainted, in consequence of the 'limited extent of his reading, at the early period of his experiments.' This philosopher commenced his chemical career in 1772, and two years afterwards announced at the table of Lavoisier the discovery, and demonstrated at Trudaines the existence of vital or dephlogisticated air, the oxygen of the French chemists. This fact is confirmed by Dr. Black. To him, therefore, and to the celebrated Scheele of Sweden, who obtained it about the same period, belongs the honour of this great discovery. Lavoisier has done much for the science of chemistry, but it is to be lamented, that his avarice of scientific fame was such, as to induce him to appropriate to himself the literary property of another. The history of the claims of these chemists may be found in the writings of Dr. Black. The editors, after enumerating the many discoveries of Dr. Priestley in almost every species of air, finish their account of his chemical writings, by stating his arguments against the pneumatic theory. 'Beautiful and elegant,' say they, 'as the simplicity of the new theory appears, many facts still remain to be explained, to which the old system will ap-

ply, and the French theory is inadequate. These are collected with an ingenuity of argument, and a force of reasoning, in the last pamphlet published by the Doctor on the subject,* which no man yet unprejudiced can peruse without hesitating on the fashionable doctrine of the day.' We consider this as a valuable collection, since it exhibits all the arguments, which a mind, so ingenious and scientific as Dr. Priestley's, was capable of advancing against the truth of the pneumatic theory. We mean not to make any observations on these results of his experiments. To enter on their discussion would extend our paper far beyond the limits of a review. The reputation of Dr. Priestley, as a chemist and a philosopher, is great. We may observe in the language of his biographers, 'that he did more for chemistry in two years, than all his predecessors; that the many kinds of æriform fluids discovered by him; the many methods of procuring them; the skilful investigation of their properties; the foundation he laid for the labours of others; the simplicity, the novelty, the neatness, and the cheapness of his apparatus, and his unequalled industry, have deservedly placed him at the head of pneumatic chemistry.

Appendix No. 2. gives an account of Dr. Priestley's Metaphysical Writings. The basis of his theory upon these subjects was Hartley on Man. Dr. P. is well known to have been a materialist and a necessarian. He maintained, that all sensations and ideas may be resolved into affections of the brain perceived, and that this perception is the result of organization; and that all acts of will or volitions are the necessary result

* This doctrine of Phlogiston, established 1803.

of previous circumstances. All choice is governed by motives, not within the control of the agent. In consequence of the former opinion, he considered the evidence of a future state, as resting almost entirely on revelation; and to meet one of the difficulties, arising from the latter, inasmuch as it makes God the author of sin, he joined to necessity the system of optimism; which teaches that all evil, physical and moral, is the means of good, and will result in good, to the whole and to the parts; and that all intelligent and moral beings will be conducted, through various stages of discipline, to happiness. These sentiments are suggested in his 'Examination of the Works of Drs. Reid, Beattie, and Oswald;' and maintained and illustrated in his *Disquisitions on Matter and Spirit*, in his controversy with Dr. Price, and in his answers to the remarks made by Mr. Palmer, Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kenrick, Mr. Whitehead, Dr. Horsley, and others. Mr. Cooper professes to give a brief history of the rise and progress of these opinions; of the successive writers on the subjects, to which they relate; and a sketch of the reasonings employed to support them. He treats the adversaries of these doctrines with serene contempt, calling the system of the Scotch metaphysicians "young gentlemen and ladies' philosophy," unworthy the attention of a thinking man. The belief in a soul, distinct from the body, he ascribes to ignorance, prejudice; popular superstition, priestcraft, and state policy; though he admits, that many of the wisest and best men adopt it, and that plausible arguments are not wanting to give it currency.

Without any doubt, many persons, who think severely and acute-

ly, find these arguments not only plausible but convincing. They cannot bring themselves to believe that their thoughts and affections are nothing more than agitations of the brain, or vibrations of the nerves. They deny that any juxtaposition, or combination of imperceptible particles, can form a perceptive being; that consciousness, reasoning, memory, all the phenomena of intellect, are composed of the dust of the ground. Thinking they have arguments for the existence of mind, as a distinct substance, they cannot admit that, because the mind and body are mutually dependent, they are one and the same; or, because some kind of organized body is necessary to the mind as an instrument, therefore the mind must be a system of matter. They would as soon assert, that the electrician and his apparatus, the musician and his instrument, the smith and his forge, are one and the same. It appears to them, that the property or the phenomenon of thought and sensation, is inconsistent with the disceptibility of matter; that figure, magnitude, and motion, however varied, can produce only figure, magnitude, and motion; or that, if matter be, as Dr. Priestley maintains, a more subtle thing, and almost not matter, consisting of centres of attraction and repulsion, yet these centres, multiplied and combined ever so often, can produce only more enlarged spheres of attraction and repulsion. Constant concomitancy, which is the alleged proof of materialism, in their view does not imply necessary connection, except when reasons cannot be discovered to show the connection arbitrary. They believe therefore, that a sentient principle, or a substance or being, the subject of thought, is superin-

duced in the organized body, in which the phenomena of thought are exhibited. As the belief in a soul may be promoted by prejudice, so may the belief of the contrary.

Dr. P.'s position, that the leading and solitary end of Christianity was to establish the doctrine of a future state, would incline him to depreciate the arguments for the natural immortality of man.

Mr. Cooper considers the doctrine of philosophical necessity, or the invariable connection between motive and volition, by the labours of Dr. Priestley and his predecessors, as so far settled, as to be no longer a subject of discussion; applying, in this relation, the maxim of law, "Interes republicæ ut denique sit finis litium." That the human mind is subject to laws, and especially to the law of association, cannot be denied. That the Supreme Being is the great substratum of the moral, as well as the physical world; that he foreknows all the operations of all causes; and that there is a determination of his will concerning every event, every motion of matter, and every exercise of mind, must be admitted. Still, so far as there is a right and a wrong, merit and demerit, in human actions, so far human beings must be the causes of those actions. As the doctrine of necessity is often stated, many of the arguments in its support are of difficult comprehension, and the doctrine infallibly liable to abuse. It makes but one agent in the universe. The springs of action are weakened, and conscience lulled into security and ease. If a man is convinced that he can do nothing, he will infer, that he has nothing to do. If a man think he has no power over the determinations of his will, how can he feel accountable for the

state of his own? This doctrine has been applied to various purposes by Spinoza to the support of *Atheism*, and by Edwards and his followers to the support of *Calvinism*. Lord Kaimes could find in this theory a defence of *Deism*, and Dr. Priestley a stronghold of *Universalism*. In general, however, efficient teachers have not introduced it into their lectures on human duties; and few or no christian preachers have ever appeared to think it could be made intelligible or useful to the mass of their hearers, except a numerous sect in this country, and chiefly in New England, who, as Plato placed over the door of his school "Let no one who is unacquainted with geometry enter here," may inscribe on their pulpits "Let no one who wants skill in metaphysics presume to expect admission into the school of Christ."

Appendix No. 3, contains the account of the political works and opinions of Dr. Priestley.

The complexion of the editor's mind respecting these subjects, may be conceived, from his observation, that 'while society exists, the Rights of Man; and Common Sense, of Thomas Paine, will be classick books on the theory of government;' from his commendation of the writings of Barlow, on the same topics, and especially from the following impudent and 'wicked' proscription of Mr. Adams's administration.—'Of that administration,' says he, 'weak, wicked, and vindictive, what real republican can speak well?' The history of the federal administration of our country does indeed bring a reproach upon the republican system; and countenance the doubt, whether such a system can stand 'the test of experiment' in this country. This administration was

commenced under the most favourable auspices, when the spirit of party was comparatively asleep; and it was committed to the conduct of the greatest and best men, and the most tried patriots, of the country—first with Washington, and then with Adams at its head. Probably it never fell to any other government to contribute so much to the general prosperity, and to produce such a favourable change in the condition and prospects of a people. The United States were raised from a state of the utmost depression, weakness, disunion, and insecurity, and in a few years placed in the possession or expectation of all that a good man ought to wish for his country. After the experiment of twelve years, "a majority of the American people" were made to believe, or professed to believe, that they had been ill-governed; and men who had opposed every leading measure of the federal government, and who promised to abolish and new-model every thing in the political machine, were brought into power. If the administration of Washington and Adams, and their coadjutors, was as corrupt or weak as the democrats, who succeeded them, averred, what security have the people for obtaining wise and upright rulers? These were persons who had rendered the greatest services to their country in the most difficult times; who, if there be any men of principle, of integrity, of patriotism, in America, were in that class of characters, and who were chosen when elections were much purer than they can ever be again. On the other hand, if the administration, during the period mentioned, was as wise, as virtuous, and as successful, as there is any reason to believe it was, whose is the good sense, wher-

the virtue of the people, to put themselves under the guidance of their flatterers, and to withdraw all confidence from their friends ; to put down patriots, for the sake of raising demagogues. That the reader may be able to make allowance for the prejudices and passions of the editor, it is proper they should recollect that this Thomas Cooper, who has come from Manchester, in his great condescension, to inform us that Mr. Adams,

..... 'a patriot from his youth,
Whose deeds are honour, and whose
words are truth,'⁴

who was among the first to propose, and assert at every hazard, our national independence ; and who has had a principal concern in all our republican institutions, is not a republican. It is proper they should recollect, that this Mr. Cooper was in April, 1800, after an impartial trial, convicted of publishing a false, scandalous, and malicious writing against the President of the United States, with an intent to make him the object of publick hatred and contempt ; for which libel the said Cooper was sentenced to pay a fine of four hundred dollars, to be imprisoned for six months, and at the end of that period to find surety for his good behaviour. It is in human nature to hate those, whom we have injured and insulted. It is common for criminals to dislike the law, and those by whom it is executed.

The editor professes to give an account of the writers on government before the French revolution. In this enumeration he purposely omits Mr. Adams' Defence of the American Constitutions. This work, consisting of 3 vols. 8vo. was written within the space of fourteen months, to expose and confute the extravagant doctrines upon the structure of government,

which the philosophical reformers in France, and the anarchists in this country, were aiming to diffuse. It is 'a specimen of that kind of reading and reasoning, which produced the American constitutions.' Dr. Priestley himself, in his address to the inhabitants of Birmingham, professes to adopt Mr. Adams' leading ideas upon the best form of government. It was not decent nor fair for Mr. C. to indulge his spleen so far, as to withhold from the readers of Dr. P.'s life, the information, that such an important actor in the affairs of this country, and one so much concerned in the production of our constitution, as Mr. Adams, had given his sentiments upon civil polity to the world. 'Malthus on Population,' stands in the way of that perfectibility, which floats before the imagination of Mr. C., and he employs several pages to show the fallacy of the doctrines in that book. The sect of perfectionists had a parallel in the 'everlasting sect,' which sprung up fifty or sixty years ago in a part of New-England. They maintained that man was naturally immortal, and would never die, if he would never transgress. Their faith was not shaken by the successive mortality of the brethren. Whenever any one of the number fell sick and died, his death was ascribed not to his inherent frailty, but to the unfortunate mischance of his having transgressed.

Under the impression of the perfectibility or at least its continually increasing tendency to improvement and to happiness, 'Dr. P. sat down to investigate the principles on which governments ought to be founded, and by which their claims to publick support and approbation ought to be tried.' His leading principle is, 'that the good

and happiness of the members, that is the majority of the members of any state, is the great standard by which every thing, relating to that state, must be determined.' This principle Mr. C. represents as almost the peculiar discovery of Dr. P., when certainly it is known that the advocates of every system have professed to have the publick good in view. There is not all the precision in the statement which language admits. The end of government is not merely the welfare of the majority of members of a state—the minority have their rights. Mr. Adams states it more accurately, when he says, the object of all civil institutions is the 'greatest happiness of the greatest number.' A republican majority is often found to be as tyrannical, as selfish, as cruel, and as profligate as the most absolute single despotism that ever existed. 'By this principle, Dr. P.' says the editor, 'tests the expediency of hereditary sovereignty, of hereditary rank and privilege, &c. with an evident tendency to those opinions which later experience has sufficiently confirmed.' These opinions appear to be such as these, that society is instituted not for the governours, but the governed, (which every body admits); that the interests of the few shall in all cases give way to the many; that all hereditary distinction is in all cases and all countries useless and hurtful; that entrusted authority shall be liable to frequent recalls, &c. 'The sovereignty of the people, written constitutions, universal suffrage, seem to be represented as means to the greatest good. It may be so—but the benefit of these things depends on circumstances. It often happens that the sovereignty of the people amounts to no more than the sovereignty of demagogues, and

those the worst of the people; and written constitutions are many times found to be no obstacles to the views of factious and violent men. What care they for paper restrictions? And universal suffrage, which allows the voice of the ignorant, the vicious, and the vile, the needy and the desperate to be heard, may easily prove, instead of the safeguard, the betrayer of liberty.

ART. 43.

Address, delivered before the R. W. masters and brethren of the lodges of St. John, St. Peter, and St. Mark, at the episcopal church in Newburyport, on the anniversary festival of St. John the Baptist. By Joseph Dana. Newburyport. 1807.

WE have so frequently been told that masonry was 'the secret haunt of sedition, rebellion, and infidelity;' and read books to prove that it was, especially, 'a conspiracy against all the governments and religion of Europe,' that we are glad to see it vindicated from the foul aspersion, and represented, on the contrary, as having for its leading object, the 'cultivation of benevolent affections, and the performance of beneficent actions,' 'cordially co-operating with the holy religion of the Redeemer in spreading universal philanthropy, and in promoting personal purity and honour.'

As we are not of the order ourselves, we are uninfluenced by the prejudice of its enemies, and the overstrained partiality of its friends.

We have no doubt that it is a harmless institution, where men agree to be cheerful; and a commendable one, where they unite to be beneficent.

After this honest declaration, we hope the fraternity will not think us uncharitable, if we have submitted, that they have availed themselves of that admiration of the wonderful, which has so strong an influence on the human mind to attract proselytes, and secure adherents. But, certainly, we cannot object to a ceremonial which serves to make men generous, and to keep them so.

Such an elucidation of the principles, objects, and tendency of the craft, as Mr. Dane has given, must conciliate the good opinion and the good wishes of every friend to virtue and benevolence, in favour of the institution by which they are professed. He has furnished a rich treasury of masonic maxims for the instruction of the brethren, and of fine sentiments for the gratification of the uninitiated. We admire his eloquence; and his cause is honoured by so able an advocate.

ART. 44.

Papers on Agriculture; consisting of communications made to the Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture. Published by the Trustees of the Society. Boston. Young & Minns. 1804. 8vo. pp. 111.

With pleasure we observe that agriculture, which has hitherto in this country, been practised by the simplest operations, is evidently, though slowly, advancing towards a state of maturity. In the rudest districts of New-England, the people have already found, that better bread can be made of grain, than of acorns; and, we trust, the time is coming, when they will be able to substitute, on their tables, the corn of wheat for that of Indian

and rye. For this increasing attention to the subject of husbandry we consider the community much indebted to the society, whose eighth number of papers is before us. The communications, mostly original, are upon the history and use of gypsum; the grafting of trees; the relative duration of scions; and upon the subject of dwarf trees, and the diseases and culture of fruit trees in general. Of these papers the most curious is a letter from N. Webster, esq. maintaining that scions are of the same age of the tree, from which they are taken; and that there is a certain period, beyond which an individual species of fruit, any more than an individual animal, cannot be preserved in existence. This theory, however, is rather plausible than satisfactory; and requires to be tested by a series of experiments, before it is acknowledged to be true.

ART. 45.

A sermon preached before the convention of the congregational ministers in Boston, May 27, 1807. By John Reed, D. D. Pastor of the first church and congregational society in Bridgewater. Boston. Munroe & Francis. 8vo. pp. 39.

That we ought to use our reason in matters of religion, as well as other matters, is one of the fundamental principles of protestantism. Yet such are the prejudices of certain religionists against the exercise of this right, that those who have dared to use and defend it, have frequently been reviled, persecuted, and insulted. They have sometimes been denied the privileges of Christians, and even of men; they have been consider-

ed as aliens from God, and pests of society; and nothing but the tolerant spirit of our government has kept them from the sword and the faggot. We have seen a sermon, delivered no longer than three years ago, in the same desk, and on the same occasion, which boldly maintained, that some christians *know* they are right, whilst other christians only *think* they are so; and that consequently the former *have a right to blame those who think differently from them on religious subjects.* And if a right to blame, then a right, undoubtedly, to censure, excommunicate, imprison, scourge, and crucify! We leave to persons holding such sentiments to show with what consistency they reject the popish doctrine of infallibility, and also how they reconcile their teaching with the candour, forbearance, and brotherly affection which the gospel uniformly inculcates.

The author of the discourse before us attacks this dogmatizing spirit with a cool and manly courage, and drives it from its strong holds. From Matt. xxiii 8, 9, 10, he asserts that, 'although christians are not in all respects equal, having been educated in different families, and by different instructors; their natural abilities, advantages, age, improvements in general, and religious attainments in particular being different, and consequently differing in their prejudices and opinions; they have, however, but one and the same father,

even God; but one and the same master, even Christ; but one and the same rule of faith and practice, even the book of inspiration;—that each brother has the same equal right to investigate and understand this rule according to his own judgment and conscience; that he is not permitted to impose his interpretation or creed upon others, as a lord over Christ's heritage;—that our Saviour hath reserved to himself the right of judging his own servants;—and that censoriousness is a great and dangerous crime.' These are the important doctrines and truths, which Dr. R. believes are implied in his text, and which he establishes, illustrates, and enforces with the talents of a good scholar and an excellent divine.

The length of this sermon reminds us of the good old times, when our spiritual fathers preached by the hour-glass. Long as it is, however, it ought to have been so much longer, as to have noticed the ravages of death upon the convention in the preceding year, and to have adverted to the charitable design connected with the service. Its style is as it should be, unornamented and nervous. In p. 21. l. 16. the verb *conduct* which is transitive; is used as though it were intransitive. This is a common error, and in common writers may pass without reprehension; but in so logical a page, as that of Dr. Reed, it never fails of disgusting a correct taste.

CATALOGUE
OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES,
For JULY, 1807.

Sunt bona, sunt quædam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS:

Letters concerning the Constitution and Order of the Christian Ministry,

as deduced from Scripture and Primitive Usage, addressed to the members of the united presbyterian churches in

the city of New-York. By Samuel Miller, D. D. one of the pastors of said churches: Hopkins & Seymour.

Papers, consisting of communications made to the Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture, and extracts. Published by the Trustees of the Society. Containing—1. Answers to agricultural queries; 2. Hints regarding cattle, by Sir J. Sinclair; 3. On the management of dung; 4. On the cultivation of potatoes; 5. Of the influence of soils, and their amelioration upon vegetation; 6. On the benefit which farmers would derive from the study of botany; 7. Remarks on the use of purmie; 8. On feeding and fattening of swine; 9. Remarks on domestick animals. 8vo. pp. 86. Boston, Adams & Rhoades, printers to the state. 1807.

The Philadelphia Medical Museum, conducted by John Redman Coxe, M.D. vol. IV. No. 2, total number 14. 8vo. Philadelphia, Thomas Dobson.

An Apology for Apostolick Order and its advocates, occasioned by the strictures and denunciations of the Christian's Magazine, in a series of Letters addressed to the Rev. John M. Mason, D.D. the editor of that work. By the Rev. John Henry Hobart, an assistant minister of Trinity church, New-York. 1 vol. 8vo. \$1.50. New-York, T. & J. Swords.

God's Sovereignty and his Universal Love, to the souls of men reconciled. In a Reply to Mr. Jonathan Dickinson's remarks upon a sermon intitled, Eternal Life God's Free Gift, bestowed upon men according to their moral behaviour, or free grace and free will concur in the affair, of man's salvation. In the form of a Dialogue, wherein Mr. Dickinson's arguments are expressed in his own words. By John Beach, A. M. 8vo. pp. 56. Providence, R. I. printed by David Hawkins, jun. 1807.

Calii Symposii Augustini. Hanc Novam Editionem, juxta Lectiones Optimas, diligenter congestam, curavit Lucius M. Sargent. 12mo. pp. 35. Bostonia, Nov. Angl. prelo Belcher & Armstrong, 1807.

A tract upon Conversion, with an appendix, containing six important questions, with answers, on the knowledge of forgiveness of sins. By the Rev. James Kemp, D. D. rector of Great Choptank church, Dorchester county, Maryland. Baltimore, George Hill.

A Rod for Dr. Kemp, or an examination of his tract upon Conversion,

proving that he is at variance with the scriptures, his own church, and himself. By a Layman. Baltimore, J. Haggerty.

The Instrumental Assistant, Vol. 2, containing a selection of Minuets, Airs, Duettos, Rondos, and Marches, with instruction for the French Horn, &c. Compiled by Samuel Holyoke, A. M.—Newburyport, Thomas & Whipple.

The Speeches of Messrs. Harper and Martin, on the trial of Bollman and Swartwout, upon the habeas corpus, before the supreme court of the United States; to which is added, the Letter of General Adair, as connected with the same subject. 12mo pp. 40. Richmond, Vir. Augustine Davis. 1807.

An Oration, delivered before the inhabitants of the town of Boston, on the thirty-first anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America. By Peter Thacher. 8vo. pp. 20. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

An Address, delivered before the right worshipful masters and brethren of the Lodges of St. John, St. Peter, and St. Mark, at the episcopal church in Newburyport, on the anniversary festival of St. John the Baptist. By Joseph Dana. 8vo. pp. 16. Newburyport, E. W. Allen, for Thomas & Whipple.

An Oration, delivered in the presbyterian meeting-house, on Saturday the 4th of July, 1807, at the request of the Washington Society of Alexandria. By John Hanson Thomas, Esq. of Fredericktown, Maryland. To which is added an Appendix, giving a short account of the society. 12mo. pp. 28. Alexandria, S. Snowden.

An Oration, pronounced at Augusta, Maine, on the 4th of July, 1807, in commemoration of American Independence. By Joshua Cushman. 8vo. pp. 24. Augusta, Peter Eden.

An Oration, pronounced before the republican citizens of the town of Hingham, in commemoration of American Independence, July 4th, 1807. By Benjamin Gleason, A.M. Second edition. 8vo. pp. 22. Boston, Hosea Sprague.

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A Discourse, delivered in Antrim, N. H. August 30, 1806, which was the day previous to the Communion in that place. By David M'Gregore, A. M.

pastor of the church and congregation in Bedford. Published at the request of the hearers. 8vo. pp. 24. Amherst, Joseph Cushing. 1807.

A Discourse, delivered at Wilton, N. H. before the Musical Society of said place, Jan. 22, 1807. By Humphrey Moore, pastor of the church in Milford. 8vo. pp. 16. Amherst, Joseph Cushing.

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NEW EDITIONS.

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The Ancient History of the Egyptians, Carthaginians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Medes and Persians, Macedonians, and Grecians. By Mr. Rollin, late principal of the university of Paris, professor of eloquence in the royal college, and member of the royal academy of inscription and belles lettres. Translated from the French. In eight vols. Vol. I. The twelfth edition, illustrated with maps. 8vo. pp. 364. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss, 12, Cornhill. 1807.

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Number IV. of the second Boston edition of Shakespeare's Plays. Containing Midsummer Night's Dream, Much Ado about Nothing, and Love's Labour Lost, with notes by Johnson and Stevens. 12mo. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

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Buchan's Domestic Medicine. Charleston, J. Hoff.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

The 2d vol. of Rollin's Ancient History—and 3d of Doddridge's Family Expositor. 8vo. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

The 4th volume of Burke's Works. 8vo. Boston, John West, 76 Cornhill, and Oliver Crosswell Greenleaf, 3 Courtstreet.

The 1st and 2d volumes of Boswell's Life of Johnson. 8vo. Boston, Andrews & Cummings, and L. Blake. These will be published in about two or three weeks.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

William Pellham proposes to publish by subscription, a new edition of a popular English novel, for the purpose of introducing a NEW SYSTEM OF NOTATION; by which the variable sounds of the vowels and consonants in the English alphabet may be accurately distinguished. The irregularity of sound to which many of our alphabetical characters are subject, has been frequently noticed and complained of; more es-

pecially by foreigners engaged in learning the language. In some instances a *single* character is employed to express a variety of sounds; while two or more characters are in other instances *combined*, to convey one simple sound. 'Such indeed is the state of our written language,' Mr. Sheridan very justly observes, 'that the darkest hieroglyphicks, or most difficult cyphers, which the art of man has hitherto invented, were not better calculated to conceal the sentiments of those who used them from all who had not the key, than the state of our spelling is, to conceal the true pronunciation of our words from all except a few well educated natives.' With such impediments in the way of the learner, it is less wonderful that many should fail, than that any should succeed in acquiring a thorough knowledge of English pronunciation and orthography. To promote the attainment of this object the work in contemplation is proposed on the following principles. 1. By means of a variety of marks placed over the same vowel or diphthong in different situations, to ascertain its sound in each variation. 2. By marks attached to such consonants as have not an invariable sound, to point out their respective variations. 3. Each vowel-mark to denote one invariable sound. 4. The marks applied to the consonants to be varied sufficiently for the purpose of discrimination, and still subject to general rules. 5. No alteration to be made in the figure of any vowel, and very slight additions to such of the consonants as are variable in sound, so as to retain the general appearance of each letter. 6. Every word to be correctly spelled; there being no necessity for false spelling to convey an idea of pronunciation. The learner will by this means acquire the pronunciation, and a knowledge of orthography at the same time.

The distinct sound denoted by each mark being impressed on the memory, the learner can never be perplexed on finding the same vowel or diphthong employed to express different sounds as in common printing; because, *whatever the vowel or diphthong may be, the sound denoted by the mark above it, remains invariable.* The work selected from the mass of English publications for the purpose of bringing into view the scheme of notation above described, is the well-known novel entitled *Rasse-*

las, Prince of Abyssinia, by Dr. Johnson, whose name alone is sufficient to establish the merit of all the legitimate productions of his pen. The marks denoting sounds will be on the left hand page; the right hand page will contain the same matter, word for word, the marks of sound being omitted, and the accent distinguished.

A specimen of the work may be seen, by applying to the publisher, at No. 59, Cornhill. *Boston, July 15, 1807.*

Messrs. Belcher & Armstrong, of this town, have announced their intention of printing the Poetical Works of Robert Treat Paine, jun.

Proposals have been issued at New-Orleans, for publishing by subscription, in four-8vo. vols. price \$20, a Digest of the Laws of Castile and the Spanish Indies; with a general view of the principles of the Roman Code, on which those laws are founded. By James Workman, Esq. counsellor at law, late judge of the county of Orleans, and of the court of probates of the territory of Orleans.

Thomas Ewell, M.D. author of *Plain Discourses on Chemistry*, and surgeon to the U. S. marine and seaman's hospitals of Washington city, has issued proposals for publishing a new work, entitled, *Letters to a Young Farmer*, containing an account of the substitutes for medicines found in the U. States.

Mr. Samuel Bragg, jun. of Dover, Newhampshire, proposes publishing, from a late London edition, a work entitled "An Essay on the Spirit and Influence of the Reformation, by Luther," the work which obtained the prize on this question, proposed by the National Institute of France, 'What has been the influence of the reformation by Luther, on the political situation of the different states of Europe, and on the progress of knowledge?' By C. Vilers. Translated from the last Paris edition, by B. Lambert. This work will be printed in one octavo volume of about 400 pages, price \$2.

OUR readers in our next number will receive pleasure and delight by a visit from "The Botanist."

ERRATUM.—In the last No. in the poem by the Hon. Benjamin Pratt, instead of
As varying Zephyr puffs the trembling blast,
read
As varying Auster puffs, &c.

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,

FOR
AUGUST, 1807.

For the Anthology.
BOTANIST, No. 13.

THE LEAF.

So from the root
Springs lighter the green stalk, from thence the LEAVES
More sky. MASON.

NATURAL HISTORY is the most pleasing study that can occupy the rational and tasteful mind; the pleasure it affords differs from all others, insomuch, that it brings no satiety; for here gratification and appetite are perpetually interchanging: yet the botanist never has, nor ever will recommend it, merely to amuse the imagination, or gratify the fancy. Utility, publick utility is the motive, which impelled him to hold up *mineralogy* and *agriculture* to the love of the rising generation. This country, abounding in minerals, is yet dependent on foreign nations for riches, that lay under our feet. However wounding to our pride, we should remember, that no people can be truly said to have obtained absolute civilization, who do not work their *own* metals. It is true, that every thing for the support of life is continued, with unceasing circulation, from the upper stratum of the earth; it is nevertheless as true, that from the bowels of it a nation draws nearly all her means of defence; labour her tools; commerce her riches; agriculture her chief support; and the fine arts

all their materials. An inferior nation depends on a superior for all these instruments.

Agriculture, that art, by which alone we can live in plenty, without dependence on other nations, is the *great* art, which we Americans ought above all other arts to pursue. But agriculture will ever remain a vague and uncertain study, unless we acquire a knowledge of the vegetable œconomy, and obtain a happy insight into the physiology of plants. Under the head of agriculture we wish to include the culture of *forest trees*, especially the oak, which is among trees what *iron** is among the metals, the strength and glory of a nation. The *olive* is the product of those countries, where the human race is debilitated by that warmth needful to its growth: instead of this languid foreigner, let us place in the arms of the United States a branch of the oak with its acorns.† Providence,

* Very hard, and not very heavy.

† The Romans called the oak *ROBUR*, and used it metaphorically for great strength of body and mind, or courage to endure to the end; hence our word

whose works are marked by manifold conveniences; flowing from one single contrivance, gives the acorn, and by it communicates power and glory to a nation; provided that nation has wisdom to appreciate, and virtue to cooperate with its bountiful intention. Let the branch of the oak thence, with its acorns, bind the brow of America: let it encircle the American eagle; or rather let the emblem of the western empire be a crown, reposing on a mighty branch of this pride and glory of our forests.

Leaving general observations, let us turn our particular attention to the physiology of the bud.

By *veroliation* English botanists mean the *complication* or folded state of leaves, while concealed within the bud; but this term expresses not that procedure of nature, by which the leaves are renewed and developed every spring, so accurately, as does the Latin word *vernatio*.

In a former number we have shewn, that the bud springs from the medulla or pith of the plant;

robust. Bolus notations was the club of Hercules, the emblem of heroick virtue. An oak with its acorns was held in high veneration by the renowned Romans. Pliny says, *Glantiferi multum generis humani, quibus hinc typus Romanos perpetuati*. Where he speaks of chaplets, he says that spruce cypress has most dignity, which is made of a branch of oak, provided it at the same time bears acorns.

The *Corymbus* is peculiar to America; and is the largest kind of *finis*, being eighteen feet from tip to tip of its wing. The *Caper* possesses, in a higher degree than the eagle, all the qualities that render it formidable, not only to the feathered kind, but to beasts.

Soldanith, *Acota*, *Coccyzus*, *Rissa*, *Chloris*, and *Condamine*, have described this preeminent bird; the last says, that he is peculiarly dreaded by the Spaniards.

and, by searching into the bud, we have seen the rudiments of the leaves; and when we penetrated still deeper, we discovered, that the bud, like the seed, contained the epitome of the future plant; but during winter it wants the power of unfolding its parts. Both seeds and buds contain the *primordia plantarum*: buds therefore differ from seeds only, as the living fetus differs from the egg of an animal; so that buds are seeds in a more advanced stage of vegetation. We have already remarked, that some buds contain flowers, some leaves, and some both; and that an accurate discrimination of them was of importance in the process of budding. To watch the *vernatio* of the embryo bud, the gradual unfolding of the fetal leaves and infantile flower, is a pleasing speculation; for the leaves are completely formed, and fairly rolled up for evolution, many months before they begin to expand: the study of the anatomical structure of the full expanded leaf and its functions, is equally delightful. We shall pass silently over the homelike nature of leaves,* which is apt to discourage young botanists unaccustomed to geometrical writers in the Latin tongue, and shall pursue the more pleasant task of exhibiting, as far as we are able, the structure and the functions of the leaf.

When we are told, that a leaf is a part of a plant, extended into length and breadth, in such a manner, that it is not only the *Folium bifidum, trifidum, quadrifidum, quinquefidum, and bipartum, tripartum, quadripartum, and multipartum*; but there is the *folium orbiculatum, decompositum, and exsertocompositum*; and the *folium ovale, lanceolatum, et cetera*, and *semi-complexicula*, and an hundred others, having reference to the shape of the leaf merely. Good sense has hardly fair play, when thus oppressed with hard words.

ner, as to have one side distinguishable from the other,* the naturalist receives but little information; and we obtain but little more, when we are told, that they are the organs of motion;† but when we say, that the leaves are the lungs of a plant, we convey an idea more consonant to truth and nature; for we find that a leaf will die, if its upper or varnished surface is anointed with any glutinous matter; or when placed in an exhausted receiver. If we should say, that the leaf combines the office of *lacteals* and lungs, we shall come still nearer truth. While our stomachs digest solid food, our lungs digest air; so that what is performed by two organs in animals, is performed by one in plants; let us then examine this organ and its functions.

The LEAF is attached to the branch of the plant by a short foot-stalk. From these foot-stalks a number of fibres issue, which, ramifying in every direction, communicate with each other in every part of the leaf, and thereby form a curious network. The intermediate substance is greenish, and may be eaten by insects, or destroyed by putrefaction, while the fibrous part remains entire, constituting the skeleton of the leaf. There are, however, two layers of fibres in every leaf, forming two distinct skeletons; the one belonging to the upper part of the leaf, the other appertaining to the lower. It is very difficult to demonstrate the anatomy of a leaf; but we have reason to conclude, that the seven essential parts of a plant, enumerated in the fourth number, are extended, rooted out, and continued throughout the leaf; so that the plant is one continued system. The leaves of plants, which are not green, are not green.

that if you slit a leaf with scissors, you cut through as many different parts of the plant, as if you cut through the trunk of a tree. The whole leaf is covered with a portion of the epidermis, or that scarf-skin, which covers the stem and stalk of the plant. Between this thin membrane and the cortical network, are placed the absorbent vessels, together with what we presume to be the absorbent-glands. Dr. Darwin, assures us, that there is an artery and a vein in a leaf; and that the artery carries the sap to the extreme surface of the upper side of the leaf, and there exposes it, under a thin moist membrane, to the action of the atmospheric air; then the veins collect and return this circulating fluid to the foot-stalk, just as the artery and vein operate in our lungs. It is hardly fair to compare the leaves of a plant with the respiratory organs of the more perfect animals; but rather to the breathing apparatus of insects, or what is perhaps more to our purpose, to the gills of fish.

When the structure of any organised body is too subtle to come within the scrutiny of the human senses, we must have recourse to analogy, and from the truths we discover, and the observations we make, we must judge of the operations in similar bodies; for we can form our opinion of that, we know not, only by placing it in comparison with something similar to that we know. The structure of certain large leaved plants, that grow in water, are remarkably conspicuous; and the gills of fish resemble, in structure and office, the leaves of these aquatic plants. Duvencney and Monro have scrutinised the gills of fish; the former found, that those of the carp contained four thousand three hundred and

vessels, which were not
 by simple vessels, and the
 in the gills of the skate fish, there exists one
 thousand subdivisions; This multi-
 fold structure gives this respiratory
 organ a surprising extent of sur-
 face. These subdivisions consist-
 ing in innumerable points, re-
 semble a fringe of but, when ex-
 amined by the microscope, appear
 like downy tufts, being crowd-
 ed with blood vessels, being ram-
 ifications of the pulmonary artery
 and vein. The whole extent of
 the gills is covered with an exceed-
 ingly fine membrane, in which the
 microscope discovers a still finer
 network of vessels. By such a
 structure the fish exposes a greater
 surface of blood to the water, than
 is exposed to the air by the inter-
 nal membrane of the air-cells of
 the lungs of quadrupeds; and that
 for the same purpose, namely, for
 obtaining undecomposed oxygen, which
 is the material of *oxidum vitæ*,
 equally necessary to fishes to land
 animals. Now, if we compare the
 structure of the gills of fish with
 that of the leaf of aquatic plants,
 we can discern a great similarity;
 but the limits of this essay do not
 allow us to run the parallel so far
 as we might.

As a tree cannot go in search of
 food, like an animal, it is forced to
 draw its nourishment from within
 the narrow sphere of its exist-
 ence; it therefore extends its roots
 through the surrounding earth, by
 which it draws a sustenance, as
 through so many syphons. These
 embolus vessels of the roots may
 be compared to the large lin-
 eals. If this water sap, ascends
 to the leaves, and is there changed
 into various perfect fluids, answer-
 ing to the blood of animals, it is
 in the flower,

in order to perfect the seed, and
 continue its kind. The roots are
 sufficient to supply nourishment to
 a large tree during winter, when
 divested of its leaves, and when the
 vegetative life reposes in winter
 quarters; but, stimulated by the
 warmth of spring, the vegetable
 awakes, and, when the process
 of *vegetation* has fairly begun, then
 the tree has more to do than neces-
 sary to support its own existence;
 and therefore it spreads through
 the air its numberless leaves, which
 are nearly equivalent to the stom-
 ach and lungs of animals.

That the sap ascends to the
 leaves is proved by the budding of
 vines early in the spring, before
 the leaves are formed, there being
 no leaves to receive it; but, when
 these elaborating organs are form-
 ed, the vine ceases to bleed; be-
 cause the sap flows into them for
rectification; for, while a vegeta-
 ble is growing, it is continually go-
 ing through a regular series of
 changes, losing the properties of
 one substance and assuming those
 of another; thus mucilage in a
 young plant becomes starch in the
 old; what in green fruit is acid in
 a ripe fruit is sugar.

But the function of the leaf is
 not perpetually uniform, as in the
 lungs of the more perfect animals;
 its operations differ in the day, and
 in the night. In the day the leaves
 of plants exhale moisture and oxy-
 gen gas, and absorb carbonic acid
 gas; but during the night they
 emit carbonic acid gas, and absorb
 oxygen gas. In plainer terms,
 they exhale, in the light of the sun,
 salutary or vital air, but in the dark
 they emit deleterious air, one of
 the most noxious of all.

In the language of
 chemistry, it is drawing any thing over
 again to assimilation, to make it yet
 higher and finer.

these operations is performed by the varnished side of the leaf, and the other from the rougher under side.

As air and heat are necessary to the life of a plant, so is light to its health. The want of light prevents a plant's forming its proper juices, deprives it of its green colour, and prevents the impregnation of its seed. It is the smooth side of the leaf which is acted upon by light; and is that part, by which a plant, in a great measure, lives; hence the leaves of many delicate plants shut up, so as to cover this smooth side on exposure to noxious vapour, or darkness, or to screen it from an extremely fierce sunshine. In order to make a distinction between the sensation of heat and the cause of it, the word *caloric* has been adopted for it, as a body, and so is light. The sun is

The varnish of the leaf is found to be resinous.

It is remarkable, that the leaves cannot prosper without light, yet seeds germinate best in the dark.

Light is an elastic fluid, that is reflected from certain bodies which it cannot penetrate; it is, also possessed of chemical affinities, by which it enters into combination with other substances; sometimes occasioning their decomposition, and sometimes it is extricated from its combinations. It gives to vegetables their colour, and contributes to their smell, taste, and balsamick principle. It enables the leaves of vegetables to emit streams of oxygen gas, or pure vital air.

Oxygen, as the *acidifying* principle, is found only in its combinations. The oxygen gas is the result of the combination of oxygen with *caloric*. It exists in atmospheric air, in the proportion of 27 to 100, and is heavier than the air of the atmosphere. It is absolutely necessary to respiration, hence termed **VITAL AIR**. During the action of breathing it enters our blood by the vessels of the lungs, giving to it a vermilion colour, and an augmentation of its vital powers.

the source of both; for he emits two kinds of rays, one *caloric*; the other *colorific*; the first occasions heat, the other colour.

With what different eyes does the philosopher and the uninform'd husbandman view a tree, waving in the full glory of its luxuriant foliage! Ask the woodsman for what a tree was made—he will tell you to bear nuts; to be cut into boards; to burn, to keep him warm, and to cook his victuals. Ask the naturalist, and he will tell you, that they are an important, nay indispensable link in the chain of human existence; inasmuch, that were the Parent and Legislator of nature to cause every vegetable on earth to be at once annihilated, the atmospherical air would directly become a putrid mass of every thing that is noxious, and man, and every other terrestrial animal, of similar construction, would soon turn into a mortified lump of corruption. The leaves of all sorts of vegetables are in fact so many laboratories for purifying the air we breathe.

During winter, when the surface of the earth is bound up with frost, encrusted with ice, and covered with snow, little or no petrification takes place; then the vegetable kingdom appears as if dead; the trees, divested of leaves, seem like so many dead sticks; but when the sun begins to diffuse his warmth over the earth, promoting that general tendency to corruption, to which all dead bodies are liable, then the trees soon exhibit a wonderful scenery, and the leafless branches, by displaying, all at once, their foliage, increase their surfaces many thousand times. The leaves are so arranged on the branches, as to expose their varnished surface to the direct influence of the sun; and, if forced out of this po-

sition, they will turn themselves; for leaves are more greedy for the light of the sun, than for the influence of its heat.*

It is from the under, or rough side of the leaf that the azotic or unwholesome air is emitted, while the oxygen, or pure vital air emanates from the upper or smooth surface; but not before the sun has shone some time upon it. This distillation of pure vital air by the leaf diminishes towards the close of day, and ceases altogether after sunset, when unwholesome air is emitted by the rough side of the leaf; and the next day, soon after the rising of the sun, the smooth or upper side recommences its function. Hence we learn, that it is unhealthy to tarry in the deep shade of trees during the night. *Burgamus,* says the shepherd in Virgil, *solis esse gravis curantibus umbra.* Let us die; for the evening shade is unhealthy to sing-ers; and, he adds, even the juniper is now noxious. Ill-scented and even poisonous plants equally afford salubrious air in sunshine. It is remarkable, however, that, while leaves perform this salutary process, flowers render the surrounding air noxious, even in the day time. Gathered fruit has, at all times, a deleterious quality. A peach, in a few hours, rendered a body of air, six times its own bulk, so entirely poisonous, that an animal could not breathe, nor a candle burn in it. † A rose kept in a glass, so much infested the air, as to render it unfit for respiration. † Persons have been found dead in their beds, whose lodging rooms have been crowded with flowers: others have been suddenly affected with dizziness, nausea, and head-

ache, on going into a green-house of flowers, that had been shut up closely during the night. † While a growing vegetable is capable of this two-fold operation, it absorbs whatever putrescent particles it finds in the surrounding earth and air. A sprig of mint, put into a jar of air, rendered foul by animal putrescency, will revive, and grow surprisingly; and will moreover correct that air, so that an animal shall be able to breathe in it.

Here is the proper place to remark, that the ocean, when agitated by winds, yields oxygenous gas; and that azotic, mephetic, or noxious air is corrected by being strongly shaken with water. Hence we learn that the two grand correctors of the air we breathe, are, first, the agitated ocean, and secondly, living vegetables, while operated upon by the rays of the sun.

If we reflect upon what has been said, it will appear, that plants have their private virtues, and their public ones. Beside the peculiar medicinal and nutritive qualities, which some possess, the great family of plants, or what is called the vegetable kingdom, conspire to form one grand apparatus for purifying the atmosphere, and rendering it fit for respiration; and these may be called their public virtues. In this view no vegetable grows in vain, whether in the interior of this vast continent, or in the wilds of Africa; for the leaves of all, whether ill-scented, acrid, or poisonous, elaborate the air they contain, and pour down a shower of depurated oxygenous or vital air, which, diffusing itself through the common mass of the atmo-

† Ingen-houz placed twenty-four French beans in a quart jar, which rendered the air, in one night, so poisonous, that a chicken, put into it, died in about twenty seconds.

* See Ingen-houz passim.

† See Priestley on air.

phere, renders it more fit for animal life. In this salutiferous process the fragrant rose and the violet, the deadly night-shade, and the still more deadly laurel,* co-operate. The animal and vegetable kingdoms operate on each other. Putrid animal effluvia, noxious to man, is food for plants, while plants transmit a salutary air to man. The winds convey vitiated air from us, for our relief; and may return salubrious gales, for our refreshment; and if these salutary gales rise to storms and hurricanes, let us still trace and reverse the ways of a beneficent Being, who, not fortuitously, but with design, not in wrath, but in mercy, thus shakes the waters and the air together, to bury in the deep those putrid and pestilential effluvia, which the vegetables upon the face of the earth had been insufficient to consume.†

These traits of wisdom, visible in the economy of those departments of nature, which have come under our scrutiny, clearly instruct us how kindly PROVIDENCE restrains, impels, and directs all things to a beneficent end:

‘His praise, ye winds, that from your
quarters blow,
Breathe soft or loud; and wave your
tops, ye pines,
With every plant, in sign of worship
wave.
O universal Lord! be bounteous still

* The *lavo-ceratus* yields abundance of the oxygen gas. *Ingenhous*:

† Pringle’s discourse before the Royal Society of London, on giving the prize medal to Dr. Priestley.

To give us paly good; and if the night
Have gather’d aught of evil—
Disperse it, as now light dispels the
dark.

MILTON. *Adam’s Morning
Hymn.*

POSTSCRIPTUM.

The *Botanist* is aware, that, in the foregoing essay, he has sketched a wider landskip, than he has been able completely to fill up. A cultivated eye will, at once, discover some parts that require retouching: this has been, owing to the want of certain requisite materials. How differently situated and circumstanced are our elder brethren in Europe, who easily obtain any book they need? while we, insulated from the source of needed information, spend more time in the vain search after a book, than would suffice to compose the essay in question. If a literary ‘matter-of-fact-man’ in Massachusetts be like unto *Robinson Crusoe* in his desert island, we should make as much allowance, when comparing his productions with those written in the capitals of Europe, as when we compare the vessel, made by this renowned voyager, with those built in the docks of France or England. There is a lamentable lack of books on Natural History in the University library. Will the FAULTORS of the contemplated *ATLÆKÆUM* encourage the heart and strengthen the hands of the *Botanist*, by supplying this mortifying deficiency? With the same helps we can work as well as the Europeans.

PRESENT STATE OF THE ART OF PAINTING IN FRANCE.

By T. C. BROWN NEEDHARDT, Member of the French Institute.*

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

PROFESSOR FIORILLO published at Gottingen, some time ago, the third volume of his History of the Art of Painting, which contains that branch of the subject relating to France.

The author says in his preface, that 'at first he only thought of speaking of the old French school, and that it was too soon to describe the modern one.' I am not of his opinion; I think that the modern school has already produced, and is daily producing, artists of sufficient merit to entitle them to be publicly noticed. I am also of opinion that M. Fiorillo would have done well to have waited until he had procured some more exact information, or visited France in person.

I have not written the following observations in the spirit of a critick; it is the love of the arts and of truth, which has alone dictated them; and I only furnish M. Fiorillo with the present additional information, that he may be enabled, in a second edition, to render his work more useful, by making it more exact and more complete.

The period, which embraces the artists of the modern school, will include all such, of any repute, as have died since 1750. I shall begin with Francesco Casanova, whom I knew on my first visit to Vienna. Fiorillo says that he was a pupil

* From a memoir entitled "*Corrections et Additions pour un Ouvrage de M. Fiorillo sur l'Art de Dessin en France depuis son Retablissement jusqu'à nos Jours.*" Read at the French National Institute, May 11, 1806.

of Simonidi, that he took Jacob Courtois for his model, and that he studied Wouvermans: all this does him honour; but I cannot coincide in the opinion of this author when he says, 'that he (Casanova) was nothing else, in the true sense of the word, than a plagiarist, who sometimes took one groupe and sometimes another from the works of Bourguignon, and placed it in his own pictures.' In battle pieces, several things may resemble each other, without our being entitled to say that one painter has stolen from another. People fight and are killed, in general, in the same manner. Casanova was a man of genius, and I think the accusation of our author is ill founded. He has said very little upon the talents and works of this artist; who has, however, acquired a just reputation in France. He has forgot his brother, who was director of the gallery at Dresden; and he has also omitted to mention several of his scholars who are known in France. Francesco Casanova, in his latter years, did some small paintings of animals, of an agreeable composition and of a light touch, for which he was well paid.

In delivering the eulogy which is due to the talents of M. Vernet, he only quotes his design of Hypolyta, and that of the leader of the car, who returns with his companions. He informs us that Darcis is engraving it. We can tell him, however, that Darcis never lived to finish this engraving.

Charles Vernet laboured a

great deal in his latter years. One third of his designs belongs to Roland the printseller, who has already got several of them extremely well engraved; particularly fourteen, by Debucours, in the soft manner in which he excels. Five other large designs are not equally well engraved. There is one of them in China ink, another in bistre, and some coloured ones of great beauty; among others, a *Departure for the Chase*. Vernet is at present occupied with his grand piece, the *Battle of Marengo*.

Robert is merely named: the author, therefore, does not know the extent of his talents: France, however, never had such a painter as Robert for the interior of pieces of architecture. He was as well acquainted with perspective as Panini, and delineates it in a manner highly agreeable to the eye. At one time, one could not inhabit a dwelling-house without having a bed-room or a saloon decorated with Robert's pictures. His works are of different qualities; he sometimes went too fast, by wishing to do too much. We have sometimes wished him to finish a little more; but perhaps, by being more finished, he would not know how to preserve the spirit which always reigns in his rural scenery and in his architecture; his talents would be of great use in theatrical decorations. His figures are not correct, but they never want spirit. The best pictures of this master are a part of his studies in Italy. He engraved at Rome a small architectural work which he called his *Soirées*, and which has given us cause to regret that he has not done more. Robert treated his own style of painting with so much superiority that he never had any rivals; and France will wait long

ere she finds another Robert; particularly in an age where all the men of genius aim at historical painting. Robert has perhaps made too many designs; but not for those who love taste and an agreeable effect. He has done a great many pieces with red and black crayons.

The French themselves pay more justice than M. Fiorillo does to Greuze, although his method of designing has nothing in common with the present school. He thinks it extraordinary that he should be called a painter of a particular school; he would rather have him called "the painter of the people or the nation, because his pictures very often represent the most characteristic traits of the entire manner in which the French think and feel." But the good and bad actions which occupy the pencil of the celebrated Greuze do not belong exclusively to the French nation; they are common to all nations. We find in all countries men who have nothing to leave to their families at their death, except their good reputation; there are every where mothers who love their children; sick persons who are consoled by their children; as well as there are children who endeavour to destroy the will of their father when they think that it is not favourable to them; and there are also children who even attempt the lives of those who have given them birth. He grants more nobleness of style to Greuze than was possessed by Cornelius Tronst, or Hogarth: I do not know where he has derived this comparison. M. Fiorillo thinks that Diderot has praised Greuze with too much enthusiasm. He thinks the colouring of Greuze is mannered: he has not seen, therefore, any of his heads;

at least, he does not mention them. Few artists have painted with so much sentiment and truth as he has done: in France he still passes for a good colourist. The author says "that Greuze endeavoured never to lose sight of the simplicity of nature; but Nature herself is mannered at Paris." Nothing is easier than to vilify a whole nation. Greuze made a quantity of designs, which can only be regarded as mere studies, all full of sentiment. Greuze created his own school, and it perished with him.

The Germans, Italians, and English, exclaim against the French school, because they envy its superiority. The man who has regarded Europe with an impartial eye for the last ten years, surely cannot think that there is any school in existence at present, except the French school: no country possesses so great a number of historical painters, or so great masters, as France does. Among other nations there are distinguished talents: a Fuger, a West, an Abildgaard, and a Hetsch, will always do honour to their country; and yet for all this there is not a German school, an English school, or a Danish school.

It is necessary that I should quote some passages of M. Fiorillo's Introduction to the History of the new French school. He asserts "that the modern artists take David for their model, and exaggerate his defects without possessing his talents." He finds, however, that the present is superior to the old French school, and he continues in this manner: "The greatest part of the works of the modern school resemble coloured statues or bas-reliefs; the contours of the figures are sharp and edgy, the expression

speaking; but the composition is empty, cold, and dry; in short, the colouring is hard, as if they did not choose any thing in nature except a local colour, and as if they only sought to relieve the effect by forced shades which fall into the dark. The modern French artists think that they have surpassed the simplicity of the Greeks in their works; but they confound simplicity with emptiness, and laboured composition with the great pains they take to become flat and insipid. As they are not possessed of a pure and classical sentiment, they remain at the entrance of the temple of Taste, without finding the fundamental principle of it; and it would seem that the genius of the times removes them from what is called the ideal of the art, &c." These are the bad French artists of whom M. Fiorillo speaks, because he has not succeeded in drawing a picture of the good ones; for he has never seen the works of the latter, and he judges by those of the former. He afterwards says, "that the antique ought to be studied; that Raphael and Michael Angelo studied it; but that they endeavoured, surrounded as they were with noble, grand, and spiritual forms, to idealize, as it were, the forms of nature." The author is therefore ignorant that the good French painters study Nature much, and that she never was more studied by any school: as a painter, he ought to know that people sometimes see with different eyes.

M. Fiorillo says that the picture of Saint Roch curing those infected with the plague, laid the foundation of the celebrity of David: he might have added to this, what has been said of the Horatii; that this picture alone would have been

sufficient to secure immortality to him. I do not like to speak of any thing unless I have seen it, but even in that case it is my own judgment, at least, that I pronounce; and therefore I only named this picture when I wrote upon the performances of David, not having been at Marseilles at that time. I have been there, however, several times since, and had an opportunity of often admiring one of the *chef-d'œuvres* of this great artist. I may even prophesy that in future ages pilgrimages will be made for the sake of admiring it. I request M. Fiorillo will add to his second edition the few words I am now going to say; if he has any confidence in my judgment.

The picture of Saint Roch was commended from David for the administration of the department of Marseilles. He did it at Rome in 1780. On receiving it, the purchasers thought it too fine to dispute connoisseurs and amateurs of it: they therefore gave up their first idea, of placing it in their own hall, and sent it to the office of the records, where it has since remained. The subject of the picture is Saint Roch, addressing the Virgin, supplicating her to cause the plague to cease. He is upon his right knee, and rests the end of his left foot upon one of the sick persons. He lifts his clasped hands to the Virgin, who is seated with the infant Jesus. Below there is at full length a dying person who rests himself upon his left arm; a little higher up are two young people expiring. The expression in the head of Saint Roch is very fine; the design of the whole figure is admirable: upon examining detail his arms, legs, and hands, we are equally satisfied. The composition is situ-

ple, and well connected in all its parts. We think we see dying persons in looking upon the poor diseased creatures. The Virgin pleased me least of all; her colouring is not so fine as that of the rest of the picture. David appears in this work as great a colourist as a designer; and he destroys the opinion of some of his pupils, who assert that design and colouring never go hand in hand. After having seen Saint Roch, I do not know whether to give the preference to the Horatii or to Saint Roch.

Fiorillo speaks of Belisarius with esteem: he relates the same anecdotes I have already printed: he does not think the head of Belisarius noble. "Every body would take it for a French invalid." I did not experience the same sensation on looking at this picture; and I never heard this reproach made by any French artist. This picture at present belongs to the senator Lucien Bonaparte.

He praises much the design of the Horatii; but according to him the composition is defective; he thinks the posture of the oldest son confined. "The father (he says), who is in the middle of the picture, resembles an old serjeant, who is drilling three recruits according to strict military tactics." The father of the Horatii never inspired this sentiment. Fiorillo thus continues:—"In the head of the father no trait of his visage characterizes a man who is exposing his children to the greatest danger, and who sees them perhaps for the last time." This judgment would not be at all surprising if it did not come from a painter, who ought to know the different sentiments of mankind as well as he ought to know the effect produced by the mixture of the

different colours. Was it ever possible to express, better, in the same head, the joy of saving his country, and the fear of exposing his children to danger? The most powerful passion ought naturally to carry away the victory in the mind of the most sensible father.

The author says, at the end of his article upon Brutus, that many people prefer this picture to that of the Horatii. In France, great beauties are discovered in both; but we generally give the preference to the Horatii.

We read in a note that Morel has engraved the Horatii, Brutus, and the Sabine; all this is false; none of the three engravings have yet appeared. It is certain that he is occupied with the Horatii; but he has a full year's labour yet before him. (The graving tool of an artist does not move so quickly as the pen of an author.)

The portrait of mademoiselle Brognard is mentioned without any distinction among the other portraits of Gerard: this portrait, however, deserves great praise, and it ought to be placed by the side of the *Jocunde* of Leonardo da Vinci.

Every thing which comes from the pencil of Gerard is beautiful; every thing is wisely conceived: he paints without having the air of painting: his full length portrait of madame Recamier has done him much honour. He has painted several portraits of his friends in a sitting or two. I ought to mention here the celebrated Ducis; no pencil ever produced more in less time.

Gerard has also done some portraits of his friends, designed at one sitting, which may serve as a model for those who wish to design in this manner. I may quote those of madame Redouté and her daughter,

of mademoiselle Coliquet, and my own, of which I am not a little vain.

Ingré ought to go to Rome; but he has not yet set out, as the author says. We expect great things from him. The design of *Stratonice*, which he is doing for me, is well composed and well designed, and we may hope to see a fine picture of it. He has finished several portraits, among which we distinguish that of mademoiselle Baviere, fourteen years of age.

M. Fiorillo thinks that Gros has talents; but he forgets to assign to this artist the distinguished place which his country has given him among the pupils of David, and which he so justly merits. He thinks it astonishing that such a terrible subject as the Plague of Egypt, of this painter, should have excited so much enthusiasm. I am very happy, on the contrary, that justice has been done to a fine picture, well designed, well painted, and finely coloured. Gros is one of the first colourists of the modern school. Our author does not recollect, therefore, that such subjects have been represented by the first talents. He does not know Mignard's Plague, Poussin's Massacre of the Innocents, his Deluge, and many others.

The name of mademoiselle Gerard is mixed, without mercy, in a crowd of others who are scarcely known. Her name merits some distinction. Her pictures are agreeably composed; the subjects are well chosen, executed with a careful pencil, and finely coloured. A great deal has been engraved after her.

The author is not well pleased with the miniatures of Augustin; he has, perhaps, never seen them; at least, he is surely not acquainted

with the portrait of *Chaudet*. He speaks of *Taunay* as of a historical painter. It is true that he has done some historical pieces; but his name has been confounded with others. *Taunay* has a peculiar style of painting of his own. He is excellent at figures, rural scenery, and architecture: he composes well, and varies his manner: no person has wrought more than he has done, and there is genius in every thing he undertakes.

Chaudet, the sculptor, is mentioned with eulogium for his picture representing the Flight of *Anna*: but his designs ought also to be mentioned. "The Triumph of *Psyche*" is very fine: he made several designs for *Didot's* grand edition of *Racine*. He is an engraver also. His designs are well composed and well executed. *Thibault*, the architect, is only mentioned for some pictures he did ten years ago; the author, therefore, has never heard of the grand and fine landscape he painted for prince *Louis*, in which *Rinaldo* and *Armida* are represented. *M. Fiorillo* is not acquainted with the pieces in water colours by this master; he does not know that in this branch he has surpassed all that went before him. I shall only mention his View near *Tivoli*, and that of the Village of *Est*. *M. Fiorillo* is also ignorant of *Thibault's* performances in architecture and in perspective: this artist has begun a work upon perspective, which when published will be a treasure to the arts. His studies in China ink are full of truth and beauty.

In naming *Bourgeois*, something should have been said of his bistre drawings, which are very fine. His *Bridge of Seves* surpasses every thing of the kind.

The pictures of *Demarne*, *M.*

Fiorillo says, have the air of being done in a dark chamber: this accusation might have been spared, as well as that of his compositions being flat and common. He ought rather to have spoken of the beauties to be found in *Demarne's* landscapes; and he ought to have said that he paints animals extremely well, and that his pencil is very careful.

We find the name of *Ommeganck* in *M. Fiorillo's* work; but we are astonished not to find it said that he paints well, and that none can portray sheep better than he does.

I did not know that the youngest of the *Redoutés* paints or designs flower-pieces only: he belonged to the expedition to *Egypt*, and has carried the art of drawing fishes in water colours to a perfection which leaves nothing for us to desire.

M. Fiorillo charges the French with unsuccessfully imitating the Flemish painters; but they had no occasion to imitate them at all. *Taunay*, *Demarne*, *Drolling*, *Swobach*, *mademoiselle Gerard*, *Boilly*, and others, have produced pictures which, without being copied after the Flemish, will do honour to their genius with posterity.

I have thus corrected the defects I have found in running over the work of *M. Fiorillo*; and I must do him the justice at the same time to say, that his works contain some well written articles, and that he is acquainted with literature; but he writes hastily. In order to compose a work upon the state of the arts in any country, it requires a long time to collect materials, particularly when the author is not in the country itself.

It would be tedious to mention in detail the artists whom *M. Fiorillo* has entirely forgotten; I shall

merely mention their names with some notes, in order that he may inquire for their productions, if he ever gives, what is very much to be desired, a second edition of his work.

Among the pupils of Casanova we look in vain for the names of Norblin, Mayer, Duverger, and of Duvivier. Norblin is one of the first battle painters: he lived a long time in Poland: he paints well, and his composition is agreeable. I am in possession of some fine designs of his in bistre and Indian ink. Mayer died very young, and was buried at Ermenonville by the side of J. J. Rousseau. He possessed a great genius. Duverger died young also: I know several very fine designs of his. Duvivier, who remained with his master until he died, lives at Vienna, and paints with great success.

Lantara painted and designed in the taste of Claude Lorrain, and his pictures have an agreeable effect; his designs, generally in black crayons, are very much sought after.

M. de Boisseu, of Lyons, a true amateur, is one of the best designers I know: no one is superior to him in using Indian ink: his landscapes are true portraits of nature; the very hour of the day is observed in them: his figures, his animals, every thing is beautiful in his designs. M. Boisseu engraves in a manner which leaves him few rivals.

The painters of Geneva are entirely forgotten by the author. The works of St. Ours, Vautcher, Topper, Larrive, Linck, and others, deserve his attention.

Professor Jay, of Grenoble, ought to have been named: he has been in Italy, and designs landscape and figures extremely well.

Gataccia, who lives at Castellanone, in the south of France, has great talents for battle pieces; it is a misfortune to him that he does not live in a great city. Historical pieces are not his forte, however; but in the country a painter must do every thing.

Fillement senior, who is still living at Lyons, ought to have been well known by the author: a great deal has been engraved from his designs. Even Woulett has rendered him immortal: the designs most easily made by him are always the best.

Perignon has done some drawings with a very agreeable touch: the designs for M. de la Borde's Travels in Switzerland are by him. They all belong at present to M. Van der Nüll of Vienna. They are well done; but perhaps he had not sufficient genius to seize upon the grand masses in this majestic country. Nature in a cultivated state, and nature in a savage state, should be represented in a different manner. If the latter does not strike an artist, he cannot do it justice.

Moreau junior is not named at all. His talents are surely known, however, in Germany: the numerous works of this man, antique in his line, have been almost all engraved. I shall instance his designs for two editions of Voltaire. His fertile genius prevents us from accusing him of copying himself, far less of stealing from others; his subject always penetrates his mind in such a manner, that his design never fails of becoming an excellent picture. His compositions are wisely conceived, and his figures are well drawn; his designs, which are generally in bistre or Indian ink, are neither too much nor too little finished. I hope that France will long retain this esti-

able artist. Posterity will be unable to conceive how one man could have found time to make all the drawings which go by his name. The industrious man who is endowed with genius, produces he knows not how.

His brother, known by the name of Moreau the landscape painter, died a long time ago : he painted with great facility, but was not always careful in his works ; his tone is not always the truest in the world.

Wille, the engraver, is still alive. He is the patriarch of artists, and is now ninety-two years old. The revolution destroyed his fortune, and only his life was saved : if to have laboured much and well, and to have done great service to the arts, deserves a recompence, it is surely Wille who deserves it. He was the reviver of engraving in France, which seemed to have been lost since the days of Edelinck, Audran, Drevet, and others. The "*Musiciens ambulans*" and his "*Cleopatra*" will always entitle him to enjoy the epithets we have now given him. All that Europe can boast of in point of engraving has come from his school. His leisure hours were employed in designing, and generally in studying rural scenes.

Wille junior has done several pictures ; but for these some years past he has not painted any thing : he handles his pencil in a most wonderful manner. His designs in black crayons are carefully done ; and there are some coloured ones to which the same remark applies.

La Fontaine is one of the best painters of domestick scenery. Ganda would have been far forward as an artist by this time, if he had not died too soon : I am in possession of a very precious

work of his ; it is his *Travels in Italy*, comprising more than four hundred studies and designs. Banks was educated by Casas, and travelled in Italy for him : he excelled in water colours. Laurentz designs animals very well, and seizes upon effects with propriety : his pencil is astonishing. Mandewar is a landscape painter ; he is chiefly known for the light and agreeable manner in which he works with lead pencils. Bera designs natural history well ; he is a pupil of Redouté, and he endeavours to follow the footsteps of his master. Brijardet, an able landscape painter, is dead. In his trees we observe that he studied nature much, and that he studied her with good effect. No man can paint a head better than Wallin ; it is a pity he has not studied nature ; his incorrectness, perhaps, would have been less. The two Ozanes are excellent at designing sea pieces : one of them has engraved a great deal, and has done it well. They are acquainted with the forms of vessels, and they give them in an agreeable manner. Bergevin designs very well with the pen, and composes bas reliefs with facility. Mistback gave great hopes. He designed landscape well, and executed with care the details of architecture. He was a pupil of Belanger. The journey he made with M. Bianco de Brant in the south of France did him great service. He died last year.

Percier, the architect, has made some fine designs in water colours, consisting of antique and architectural subjects : he has an exquisite taste for furniture.

Baltard, the architect, favourably known by several works, designs architecture and landscape extremely well.

Bertaux, who has been distin-

guished generally by the name of the modern Callot, designs with an astonishing facility. I have seen, with very great pleasure, his pen and ink design of the Battle of Austerlitz, which he is engraving for placing below the portrait of the French emperor.

Pillement junior, whom I ought to call the first landscape engraver, designs perfectly well this kind of drawing.

Several sculptors are distinguished for their designs. The name of Moitte has been for a long time favourably known among the amateurs of designs: a great deal has been engraved after him. His designs are well composed and well conceived. Taunay, the sculptor, his pupil, has not made many designs, but they are very fine ones. I possess two of them; one representing Charon, to whom Mercury has delivered the Shades of those who are to pass the Styx: all seem

desirous of returning: the small heads are full of expression; the composition is agreeable, and the Mercury is of an astonishing lightness. The other is *Time extinguishing the Torch of Love*. One of the first painters said it was worthy of Julio Romano; I have therefore nothing to add. Boichot designs very well after the old masters; he prefers the Florentine school. Naudet is one of those artists who unites in one person all the qualities of a travelling painter. He has accompanied me for these five years past in my travels. The five hundred designs, which are the fruit of these travels, will prove the accuracy of my opinion.

I may have still omitted some very distinguished artists, who may have been forgotten by M. Fiorilli also; and as I have trusted to my memory alone, my only desire has been that it should not deceive me too often.

For the Anthology.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING, in the Anthology of last month, given admission to certain strictures upon a poem, extracted from the Port Folio, and entitled "A Picture of Boston," may it not also be presumed that you will, with equal willingness, admit an opinion, somewhat opposed to that of your correspondent, and that no exclusive nor ex-parte attention is to be apprehended from the pages of your instructive miscellany?

Will you afford place and patronage to the simple judgment of a recluse, who loves the Muses, without being their favourite or their follower; of course uninfluenced by hope, and inemulous of reward, thence unprejudiced, and,

as nearly as human passions may admit, impartial? He confesses; that to him the original poem was communicated previous to its publication, while truly, and upon the honour of a gentleman, he disclaims any part or interest in the composition, excepting that of friendship, good will and discriminating justice.

Though far from giving unqualified approbation to a sentiment declaring the Exchange of Boston to be 'of christian jews the prey,' neither does it appear to me just or decent to adopt the language of the criticism in so unceremoniously styling the poet 'a liar,' since to try what the critic chooses to denominate a 'satirical'.

poetry by this standard, and unvarnished matter of fact, were to reduce poetry to prose, and to require from a work of imagination the properties of a political pamphlet. But the merit of the poetick composition, as such, is not analysed by him, for his positive assertion that the author has exposed a 'flaccid muscle, poorly propped by ill concealed fragments, pilfered from real poets,' does in fact prove nothing, unless the 'flaccid muscle' were displayed, and the 'pilferings' made visible. In neither instance has the attempt been made.

The present writer is tolerably well read in the poets; yet he has hitherto detected in the 'Picture of Boston' neither 'pilferings' nor 'imitations.' Further, when the critick observes that these miserable calumnies are 'crutched upon rhyme and hobble about in measures of poetry, stilted but not elevated,' it appears a little odd to see crutches and stilts so blended together, since brought to the test of real life it is thought they would rather interfere.* If the rhymes really hobble, it only shows a bad ear in the poet, respecting which allegation the lines must speak for themselves.

But the sentiments of the poem is most particularly canvassed by the critick, while the poet, in his individual capacity, is accused of lying and strutting, and also termed 'false and malignant,' 'singularly

* Note by the Editors.

"Stilts—SUPPORTS, ON WHICH MEN raise themselves, when they walk." Johnson's Dictionary.

Pray, most critical Madoc, may not boyish imbecility stilt—i. e. SUPPORT itself, even upon crutches? And should dulness hitch its gravitating mass upon rhyme, would it thereby attain any real elevation?

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lest *Manick* 'and insolent,' with a wonder 'from what Bedlam this manick escaped,' who, 'instead of rummaging and grazing at large on Parnassus, without shackle or clog on any of his feet, claims from his friends the stern discipline and strait waistcoat of the cells.' In fact, this fine discussion displays the very reverse of argument or detection, since it advances much and proves nothing, having more of the asperity of personal *fiuque*, than the rational conclusion of correct taste and mature judgment. Neither can I agree with the critick in considering 'the metropolis of New-England wantonly calumniated,' and the 'WHOLE CITY holden up to contempt, as destitute of virtues,' &c. &c. since the poet has given his admiration and bestowed his eulogy upon Boston, not only for its scite and many advantages of local charms and attraction, but also as highly gifted in mind and morals, thus

"Yet fair thy hills in summer pride are
seen,
The bright stream curling mid their
slopes of green,
While the near ocean, broadening on
the view,
Gives all Phœacia sought, or Carthage
knew.
Even MAN, whose mind the stamp of
wisdom bears,
And in the image of a God appears,
Those 'sons of soul,' by heaven to earth
resigned,
Friends! patrons! and instructors of
mankind!
Even these are seen mid severing clouds
to shine,
And all the splendor of their fame is
thine."

From which general characteristic the poet proceeds to individualize distinguished excellence, not with an implication that genius is indiscriminately suffered to pine in neglect and disregard, since the Rev. Mr. Buckminster is describ-

ed as 'him so loved,' while of a celebrated advocate it is observed, that

"Still, with speaking gaze, or starting
tear,
 ADMIRING CROWDS the peerless pleader
 hear."

These descriptions are surely not expressive either of total disregard or unqualified neglect. That idea was probably obtained from the following lines :

"Beneath thy temple's holiest veil
 retired,
 See the blest preacher by his God inspired,
 Warm from his lips the words of life
 descend,
 Yet these the coldness of neglect attend."

That is, *the doctrine* of the preacher, 'the words of life' have not the influence they should have, since the preference is still bestowed on Mammon.

"Say, can these bid the narrowing
 heart unfold,
 Or show its hope a heaven more prized
 than gold?"

Again the critick seems to have mistaken the author, whom he reproaches with asserting that poverty, as well as neglect, is awarded to those, who really rank among the most wealthy and respected of our citizens. To this declaration a positive contradiction is returned, since the poet has proclaimed them the 'beloved' and 'admired.' Truly he observes,

"Since these are thine, IMPERIAL
 BOSTON, say,
 Does rich reward their mental wealth
 repay?
 Or phantom honours, and reluctant
 praise
 Light, without warmth, the winter of
 their days?
 Or Staidér, Envy's child, with basted
 care,"

From the fine front its graceful laurel
 tear,
 Striving, unblest, to wreath the serpent
 there!"

In explanation of which it must be recollected that the author avows himself to be 'a foreigner,' and as such probably in the habit of seeing distinguished talents remunerated, not with '*phantom honours*,' but with large pensions, high titles, and commanding influence. But the elevated and opulent Bostonian is indebted to his personal exertion and industry for the independence he enjoys, while any adventitious station or distinction, he may possibly possess, so far from being a subject of emulation, seems a mere sea-mark for the observation of virulent hatred and obloquy. Most willingly is it admitted, that among the merchants of Boston are to be recognized men of sense, talents, and liberality. But does not that respected body contain some, even of those the most opulent, who are found capable of enhancing their riches by usurious practices? And are there not likewise in this metropolis bankers of high consideration, who

"Lest to the struggling wretch their
 CAUTIONED NAME?"

The '*Picture of Boston*' was evidently sent to the press in an unfinished state, made up of fragments, which either leave much for the imagination to supply, or admit a presumption that the author means, upon some future occasion, to fill up the different hiatus with those characters of the pulpit and the bar, which still remain equally entitled to high estimation.

Finally, as the greatest mistake of all, the critick has brought forward the concluding apostrophe to Genius, fitting its application and

all its references to those beloved and admired individuals, who were previously celebrated; while it really appears that nothing could have been farther from the intention of Caradoc, who, in the following lines, with much of the license of his profession, characterises the fate of Genius in its abstract, and certainly not in this instance under the individual capacity of living example, thus :

"GENIUS, THOU GIFT OF GOD, to thee belong
The base man's insult, and the oppressor's wrong!
Nor thine the boast, that prosperous trade bestows,
Ne'er to thy hope the golden Indus flows,
But thine that poverty to heaven allied,"

That meek Disdain, which Virtue lends to Pride,
Though sunk to earth, thy soft imploring eye
See many a Levite pass unheeded by,
Conscious of innate worth, not Mockery's
wile,
Nor chill Neglect, nor Wealth's contemptuous smile,
Nor Pity's vaunting sneer, nor Envy's frown
Are known to BEAR THE UNBLIGHTED SPIRIT DOWN.
Pensive thy solitary sufferers seem,
The sport of Fortune, but of Fame the theme,
Vain were to them the venal world's regard
WITH HEAVEN THEIR HOPE, AND NATURE THEIR REWARD."

MADOC.

July, 1807.

We have relaxed the strictness of an editorial rule, for the admission of the preceding strictures in defence of Caradoc's rhyme, on which we remarked in a former Anthology. We should have neither leisure nor place for other pursuits, if we were to enter into minute contests with authors, or the friends of authors, whose wounded vanity winces at our touch, or whose checked insolence is ill at ease, under the smart of merited discipline. Much less can we descend to such a task, at the beck of an anonymous writer, whose work was noticed by us, not as being entitled to the honours of criticism, but as being obnoxious to the rigours of chastisement. "The Picture of Boston" and our observations upon it are both before the public; and whether we have exceeded either decency or justice, in the measure

of our censure, we cheerfully submit to the decision of that tribunal.

* Blessed be ye poets, for yours is the kingdom of heaven, says the MOST BLIND OF ALL AUTHORITY.

We confess that Caradoc's publication did excite in us a mixture of contempt and indignation. Sentiments, which, until Madoc's epistle came to hand, we had supposed to be universal, at least in this place and its neighbourhood. Nor have the mincing, wire-drawn labours of the "author's friend" had any other tendency, than to strengthen our opinion of the correctness of our first impressions. The design of a work is to be collected from a view of the whole; and not from an artful selection of some of its parts. These, though altogether unexceptionable in themselves, may be so disposed in the composition with relation to the principal object, as to heighten or exhibit the most malignant purpose. Let Madoc palliate, or deny as he will, the design of Caradoc, palpable from the publication itself,

was to dishonour the general character of our city, particularly of its merchants. And all his fine display of local advantages, and ostentatious tribute to particular individuals, are obviously destined but to strengthen the general effect by the power of contrast. He admits, it is true, that here suns shine, but then it is "mid severing clouds"—"mid a world of night," "Rays of Genius" there are: but we are "deaf as our hills, and ruder far than they." The six first lines develop the main design of the author. The impression he would make on the world, to which all the other parts of his work are subservient, is, that "Mammon is the deity to whom Boston breathes the vow; that from its exchange, a prey to christian Jews, even the hope of liberal trade is frightened; that gold is its god whose worship, absorbing the soul, causes every virtue to die." For these aspersions, as false, as they are gross, what is Madoc's palliation, and how does he apologize? Why, truly, the rhymster has "eulogized our city," "our local advantages," and eight of our citizens!! Because among the great body of our merchants "some" take usury and gripe the poor, Caradoc is quite justifiable in having represented our whole city as devoted to the worship of Mammon, and "liberal trade" and "every virtue" as frightened from our exchange!! And all this is right—"such is the license of his profession"!! Lest however, we should not be altogether prepared to subscribe to a liberty, so full of outrage, Madoc has at hand another subterfuge. We must not connect, or "fit the application" of the end with the beginning, or the middle with either. They are detached "fragments," to "Much is unfinished."

"Much is left for the imagination to supply." We are called upon to dissolve all the cement of composition, and to set all its rules at defiance, to make loop-holes, for the retreat, in his necessities, of this licentious assailant. Really the work of insult, which "the author" commenced, "the friend" has completed. The former represented our city, as void of morals. The latter treats it as though it were void of understanding. "Personal pique" never did, and never shall influence this miscellany. The intimation of it, on the present occasion, is but an additional proof, of which the world has already enough, that the champion of a desperate cause will never be very delicate in the choice of his weapons. We had not the most distant suspicion of the author, nor any clue to lead to the discovery of him. Our judgment concerning him had no other standard than the nature of his production. The turbid, trickling of the stream, is the natural proof of filth in the fountain. From the time and place of the publication of this "Picture of Boston" we had been led to conjecture that it was the *parting requital* of some "travelling foreigner" for attentions received during his residence in this metropolis; very similar to the *requitals*, which several other "travelling foreigners" have made for the misplaced hospitality of our country. We did not then deem it possible that any individual, though a foreigner, could have had the effrontery to prepare, or even to be the apologist of such undisguised insult, at the very moment, perhaps, when both author and friend were either living by our countenance, or enjoying our civilities. But the *confessions* of Madoc will not allow us to indulge

such a delusion. Madoc, the friend of Caradoc, nay, probably Caradoc himself, is on the spot, or at no great distance. For the shield is protruded, almost as soon as the arrow is sped. He tells us, that he saw the picture "previous to its publication." He suggests how "it was sent to the press." And almost engages that the outline, which he defends as so just, and so happy, shall in time be completed. The "*Christian Jews upon our exchange*"—"our trade-ful sons," have therefore good reason to believe that they are at this moment blackening under this foreigner's pencil, with just light enough from the splendour

of a few admitted luminaries of the pulpit and the bar "to make the darkness, with which the painter means to envelope the general character, more visible and hideous. "The confessions" of Madoc are very precious, and ought to awaken our citizens to timely circumspection.

We shall allow this topic no farther to occupy our miscellany. We have yielded enough to such foreigners as Madoc and Caradoc; be they "travelling" or be they stationary. We rejoice to think it is in our power to acquit every native citizen of being either authour or apologist of these shameless calumnies.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 24.

Hunc hauri spectemus. Hoc propositum sit nobis exemplum. Ille se profectus sciat, cui Cicero valde placebit.—QUINTILIAN.

In the present taste for classical literature, which prevails in this part of the Union, it is equally a subject of surprise and regret, that the works of Cicero are so strangely neglected. His orations are learnt by the school-boy as a necessary qualification for academical admission, but are seldom reviewed after his entrance into the university; whilst the other productions of this admirable writer remain unexamined, and consequently unknown. And yet the ablest critick of antiquity affirms, that he is the author, which every scholar should endeavour to emulate, and that we can best judge of our own proficiency by the pleasure we receive from perusing his works.

Mr. Addison observes, that a thought clothed in the language of Cicero, and in that of an ordinary writer, differs as much, as an object viewed by light of a taper,

compared with the light of the sun; and the most distinguished writers of harmonious prose seem to have formed their style on his model.

But as this great writer will speak with more effect himself, I shall extract such passages from his Brutus, as may excite a wish in some to become better acquainted with his works. Even under the disadvantage of a translation the sentiments of Cicero will still carry with them considerable weight.

After speaking in high terms of Hortensius, he proceeds to relate the mode of study he adopted for the acquisition of that eminence, which he afterwards obtained.

'I daily spent my time in reading, writing, and private declamation. That I might acquire a competent knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence, I then at-

tached myself to Quintus Scævola, who, though he did not choose to undertake the charge of a pupil, yet by freely giving his advice to those who consulted him, he answered every purpose of instruction to such as took the trouble to apply to him. I also attended the lectures of Molo the Rhodian, who was newly come to Rome, and was both an excellent pleader, and an able teacher of the art. At this time also Philo, a philosopher of the first name in the *Academy*, with many of the principal Athenians, having deserted their native country, and fled to Rome, from the fury of Mithridates, I immediately became his scholar, and was exceedingly taken with his philosophy; and besides the pleasure I received from the great variety and sublimity of his matter, I was still more inclined to confine my attention to that study, because there was reason to apprehend, that our laws and judicial proceedings would be wholly overturned by the continuance of the public disorders.

The three following years, the city was free from the tumult of arms, and I pursued my studies of every kind, day and night, with unremitting application. I lodged and boarded at my own house, where he lately died, Diodotus the Stoick, whom I employed as my preceptor in various other parts of learning, but particularly in logick, which may be considered as a close and contracted species of eloquence, and without which you yourself have declared it impossible to acquire that full and perfect eloquence, which they suppose to be an open and dilated kind of logick. Yet with all my attention to Diodotus, and the various arts he was master of, I never suffered even a single day to escape me, without

some exercise of the oratorical kind. I constantly declaimed in private with Marcus Piso, Quintus Pompeius, or some other of my acquaintance; pretty often in latin, but much oftener in greek; because the greek furnishes a greater variety of ornaments, and an opportunity of imitating and introducing them into the latin; and because the greek masters, who are by far the best, could not correct and improve us, unless we declaimed in that language.

I now began, for the first time, to undertake the management of causes, both private and publick; not, as most did, with a view to learn my profession, but to make a trial of the abilities, which I had taken so much pains to acquire. I had then a second opportunity of attending the instructions of Molo; who came to Rome, while Sylla was dictator, to solicit the payment of what was due to his countrymen, for their services in the Mithridatic war. My defence of Sextius Roscius, which was the first cause I pleaded, met with such a favourable reception, that, from that moment, I was looked upon as an advocate of the first class, and equal to the greatest and most important causes; and after this I pleaded many others, which I precomposed with all the care and accuracy I was master of.

But as you seem desirous not so much to be acquainted with any incidental marks of my character, or the first sallies of my youth, as to know me thoroughly, I shall mention some particulars, which otherwise might have seemed unnecessary. At this time my body was exceedingly weak and emaciated; my neck long and slender; a shape and habit, which I thought liable to great risk of life, if engaged in any violent fatigue, or la-

hour of the lungs. And it gave the greater alarm to those who had a regard for me, that I used to speak without any remission or variation, with the utmost stretch of my voice, and a total agitation of my body. When my friends, therefore, and physicians, advised me to meddle no more with forensic causes, I resolved to run any hazard, rather than quit the hopes of glory, which I had proposed to myself from pleading. But when I considered, that by managing my voice, and changing my way of speaking, I might both avoid all future danger of that kind, and speak with greater ease, I took a resolution of travelling into Asia, merely for an opportunity to correct my manner of speaking. So that after I had been two years at the bar, and acquired some reputation in the forum, I left Rome.

When I came to Athens, I spent six months with Antiochus, the principal and most judicious philosopher of the *Old Academy*; and under this able master, I renewed those philosophical studies which I had laboriously cultivated, and improved from my earliest youth. At the same time, however, I continued my rhetorical exercises under Demetrius the Syrian, an experienced and reputable master of the art of speaking.

After leaving Athens, I traversed every part of Asia, where I

was voluntarily attended by the principal orators of the country, with whom I renewed my rhetorical exercises. The chief of them was Menippus of Stratonica, the most eloquent of all the Asiatics: and if to be neither tedious nor impertinent is the characteristic of an attack orator, he may be justly ranked in that class. Dionysius also of Magnesia, Aschilus of Cnidos, and Xenocles of Adramythus, who were esteemed the first rhetoricians of Asia, were continually with me. Not contented with these, I went to Rhodes, and applied myself again to Molo, whom I had heard before at Rome; and who was both an experienced pleader, and a fine writer, and particularly judicious in remarking the faults of his scholars, as well as in his method of teaching and improving them. His principal trouble with me, was to restrain the luxuriance of a juvenile imagination, always ready to overflow its banks, within its due and proper channel. Thus, after an excursion of two years, I returned to Italy, not only much improved, but almost changed into a new man. The vehemence of my voice and action was considerably abated; the excessive ardour of my language was corrected; my lungs were strengthened, and my whole constitution confirmed and settled.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE to his friends in this country.

LETTER EIGHTH.

Rome, Dec. 7th, 1804.

MY DEAR SISTER,

I HAVE undertaken a task more arduous than I had anticipated.

The description of Rome is a work of time and exertion. Its beauties are too varied, too great, and too striking, to be passed over in a slight and cursory

manner. When you ramble out of the populous part of the city, beyond the seven hills, on which Rome originally stood, you find yourself amidst deserted and melancholy fields, strewed here and there with the magnificent remains of Roman edifices. Rome is as singular and unique in its appearance, as it has been in its fate. Its walls, which are antique and have been preserved in their full extent as they existed in the time of the Cæsars, embraced several miles square, in which scarce an habitable edifice now rears its solitary head. Perhaps some lonely convent, or some splendid and vacant church adds a sort of gloomy variety to the scenery. You must not infer from this, that Rome is a dull, or uninteresting city. It is crowded with people in its habitable parts, and motion and splendor are as visible as in any city of the continent. Amidst the deserted fields of ancient Rome strangers often delight to stroll, and scarcely a step is taken but offers some new object to gratify and amuse. Here some temple to the fanciful Gods of the Romans rears its mutilated form ; there the vast arches of a magnificent aqueduct astonish you by their grandeur and extent. On this side, your eye ranges along the immense pile of the palace of the Cæsars ; on the other, the huge relicts of some mausoleum, or the more extended ruins of an imperial Thermes, attract your eager attention. The baths of Diocletian, situated about a mile from present population, though still within the walls, were a surprising edifice, of which very considerable relicts are yet to be seen. The present pope, filled with a noble ardour for the fine arts, and willing, I presume, to repair the losses which Rome has sustained by the

depredations of their good allies, and the protector of catholicism, the emperor of the French, has taken unwearied pains to restore the monuments of antiquity, and either to discover new ones, or the residue of those which have been partly discovered. I shall notice these exertions and discoveries as they occur.

The galley slaves, a numerous corps at Rome, are occupied in digging up the remains of the baths of Diocletian. The foundations of this vast edifice are from 15 to 30 feet below the present surface of the earth. The dancing hall of the emperor Diocletian, which appertained to these baths, was discovered in the time of Michael Angelo, (indeed it had never been covered) and was by that first modern architect converted into a church.

The grandeur, simplicity, and beauty of this fine edifice proves the superiority of ancient artists, and the columns of granite, of a size inconceivable to modern builders, of single blocks of that prodigiously hard stone, justly excite our admiration. These pillars cannot be less than nine feet in circumference, and upwards of thirty feet high. That emperors should have exerted all their power and wealth to bring such monuments as the obelisks from Egypt, one can conceive, though the manner may be incomprehensible ; but that they should have incurred the enormous expense of transporting from Egypt these monstrous pillars for every house or edifice of luxury or devotion, is, I confess, to me almost incredible.

This church being one of the largest in Rome, the astronomers have availed themselves of it by drawing a meridian line in it. As we have nothing of the kind in our

country, nor any building which could display one to advantage; I will describe it to you. To form a meridian line, you require a large surface, and a smooth uninterrupted one. The churches of Rome having marble floors, and no interruption from pews or any other objects, (because the devotion of the people is a secondary consideration, and is done in a different manner) they are very well adapted to this purpose. The object of the meridian line is to exhibit, on a visible and perceptible scale, the progress of the sun in the ecliptic. You well know the general system, that from the 21st of March, on which day the sun is said to cross the equatorial line, he travels northward according to appearances, and from 21st June he again travels southward till he reaches the equatorial line again, on the first of September, from whence he makes a similar journey towards the south: Excuse this rough sketch to explain the nature of this line.

A straight line is traced across the church, in a diagonal direction to give it greater length, and extending from south to north. A small hole is made near the roof of the building, and so contrived that the rays of the sun shall always enter through it, and strike the floor at noon, or when the sun is in the meridian. As the rays of the sun in winter make a more acute internal angle with the surface of the earth, than in summer, it will of course strike a further part of this line, and in midsummer, being nearly perpendicular, or forming a less acute angle, it will of course approach nearer the hole in which it enters. It will thus, you see, change daily, as the sun appears to advance or recede in the ecliptic, and of course you are enabled

to mark on this line his precise place every day in the year. These marks are accompanied with all the signs of the zodiac, elegantly traced in inlaid marble, and the degrees are marked in the same durable manner. These monuments are honourable to the Italians, and remind us of their well-earned reputation in astronomy. Your literary friends will tell you how much the world owes to the celebrated Galileo, and to the distinguished family of Cassini.

The baths of Titus are more extensive, more perfect, more picturesque, and more useful, than those of Domitian. They are yet in a tolerably entire state. The lower story out of three is almost entire. In them were found many rare curiosities; but the walls of stucco or plaister, still perfect, with antique paintings, whose colours and forms are perfectly visible, have been very useful to those who study the beauties of antiquity. It is thought that they served as the model for some of the best works of Raphael in the same line. These are, and have been for ages, under the surface of the earth; and by what art the Romans could make their plaister and their colours so durable as to resist the effects of time and humidity, is astonishing to every one.

After all, I can give you but a very imperfect notion of these things in description. Plans and stamps which I shall bring home with me, and one hour's conversation, will do more than pages of laborious description.

The baths of Caracalla were as extensive nearly as the others, and the remains are as respectable, but not so curious. The only thing which the ancient and modern barbarians have left us in these baths to admire, is the extent and solid-

ity of the Roman edifices. The size and form you can see, and the thickness of the walls, but the ornaments are chiefly gone. All their buildings were clothed within and without with marble, stone, or some other beautiful covering, and ornamented with richest statuary. The walls consisted of a surprising thickness of bricks, laid in excellent mortar.

These walls are now in many cases stronger and more beautiful in point of masonry than modern edifices. Their grandeur, solidity, and extent, are the objects which strike us most.

What must have been ancient

Rome, when it had standing, at the same time, publick baths that would accommodate at one moment 6000 persons; when its various theatres would contain 500,000 spectators; when 5000 wild beasts, all brought from Africa or Asia, were sacrificed in a single spectacle; when its environs extended from Rome to Otricoli, 40 miles, lined with houses, palaces, and temples!!! What are the awful reflections on its fate, when we find no country, no spot on the habitable globe so deserted, so wretched as the campania of Rome, the seat of so much splendour, of so much human grandeur!

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 30.

“Non omnes arbusta juvant.”

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

THE student of *ancient* lore will sometimes relax his mind and amuse his leisure with books in this department of literature. It is pleasant to know the relative value of the edition which we own, or to which we have access; and it is useful to ascertain which is, and where may be found, a more accurate and valuable impression. The anecdotes which respect the men and books, which hold a high rank in scientific estimation, are among the most interesting topicks of a scholar's inquiry. Every, even the most minute particular concerning them arrests eager curiosity, and repays the most diligent attention. Next to the authors, whose labours have instructed and delighted the world, and are destined to retain their reputation while the world lasts, the classic reader feels grateful to the industrious editors and ingenious schol-

iaists, who have collated the various copies, and illustrated the genuine text, with indefatigable patience, with learned and critical comments. Who, that has been detained by Homer, and Sophocles, and Xenophon, and Theocritus, and Terence, and Horace, and Virgil, and Cicero, and Longinus, or others of his admired Greek and Roman friends, till the striking of the first, or second, or even third hour of morning, has reminded him that tho' the mind is unconscious of fatigue, the body needs repose; who, that has been often thus delightfully beguiled, (and they who never were have yet to taste the choicest fruits, and enjoy the highest gratifications which learning furnishes) but love to read and hear of Clarke, and Stephens, and Hutchinson, and Warton, and Bentley, and Burmann, and Heyne, and Brotier, and Pearce? Who likewise that has known the exquisite

satisfaction, which excellence of typography affords, but thanks and praises the Elzevirs and Aldi, Crispinus, Baskerville, and Bensley? In our country we have experienced this last pleasure but very imperfectly. Publick libraries have hitherto been few, and the institutions to which they have been attached embraced so many objects, and possessed so few resources, that very rarely indeed have they been able to purchase the most valuable and best editions. Some treasures of this sort, from the munificence of individual *foreign* benefactors, enrich the alcoves of Harvard, but taste has not been much excited, or industry employed, for discovering or describing them. Few probably know, and perhaps not many care, that there are sets of works deposited at Cambridge, of which curious collectors, learned societies, and even royal purchasers would vie for the attainment at almost any price which Jewish avarice could demand of princely affluence. Among others, there is a copy of "The Court of the Gentile's by Theophilus Gale," containing the original manuscript of that portion of the work which it was necessary to expunge, in order to obtain an "imprimatur." It is well known, that this learned author was a nonconformist; and as he had discussed with too much freedom some of the ceremonies and observances of the episcopal church, he was refused the patronage of Oxford university, unless he would suppress the obnoxious chapters. They were not however destroyed; and if tradition, and the information of a thorough and elegant scholar, formerly librarian, be correct, we are indebted for them to Mr. Hollis. The writing is very fair; and the topicks of inquiry are curious

and interesting. It would gratify many, if these chapters of a profound and curious work, by an author whose bequest of his large and valuable library to our alma mater has endeared his memory to her sons, might be printed in the Anthology.

Another curiosity of immense worth belongs to this ancient seat of learning. Of the 'Biblia Polyglotta Waltoni,' a very few copies were impressed on paper of a very large size and superiour quality. Dibdin supposes 'there are about twelve of this sumptuous publication; and of Castell's Lexicon' (which should always accompany the bible) 'not more than three in the world.' Our college has one entire set, which was a present from the author to lord Clarendon, in 12 vols. imperial folio, of this '*editio princeps & optima.*' The Lexicon in this form is incomplete. There are two copies besides both of Polyglott and Lexion, of common size and quality.

Having mentioned Dibdin's 'Introduction to rare and valuable editions of the Classics,' &c. will it be thought invidious to remark, that in a very partial examination and limited occasional consultation of it, many omissions have occurred. For some of these the author and his friends may plead, that the design and limits of the volume exclude an enumeration of the smaller and more inconsiderable editions. But is not this a defect in the design, especially as a mere catalogue, with some discriminating figure or character to designate, which of these common copies were most correct and valuable, would not have greatly swelled the work, and would have been of vast convenience and benefit to a numerous portion of literary men? Most of this class in our

country, who possess any classicks besides those studied in the schools, are necessitated to content themselves with the small editions of Geneva and Amsterdam. Few are able to purchase the larger ones; and those who might afford, could not, till lately, procure many of the poets and historians of Greece and Rome in the best impressions. Of those which they could have, very little if any account is to be found in the work before us, and some of them we think entitled to a place, if not a description. Hesiod, Theognis, Phocyllis, Theocritus, Simmias, Bion, Moschus, Musæus, and the Minor Poets, with annotations, scholia, and a latin metrical translation, by John Crispin, have intrinsic value for accuracy and neatness of type, and are curious from the history of the editor:—This scholar and gentleman was a lawyer of some distinction; but having entangled himself in a religious dispute with some doctors of the Sorbonne at Paris, about 1598, he retired to Geneva and there established a press, from which were issued many of the Classicks and a Greek Testament, which possess a considerable and merited estimation. —Bond's Horace, 12mo. 1696, with marginal annotations, is recollected with regard, for the facility it afforded to juvenile studies. Elzevir's Plautus, 12mo. Amstelod. 1652. is a very neat and a correct specimen of printing; as is Salust, 12mo. Amat. 1643. apud Jansonium. Omitting particular notice of some good editions of Cicero 'De Oratore,' and 'De Officiis,' of Justin, of Ovid, and of Terence, which are not to be found in Dibdin, (though of this popular dramatist we must add, that politeness, as well as justice, seemed to require an acknowledgment to

Madame Dacier; who had favoured us with the rare gift of a translation and criticisms of a latin author from a lady;) this tedious *ramble* will close by sincerely wishing and hoping, that some able person will compile and publish, as an appendix to the larger works of Bibliography, a list and comparative estimate of those impressions of the Classicks, which are in most general demand and use.

LIBRARIES.

Large collections of books have ever been the favourite haunts of the learned. They not only aid researches, but they excite a zeal and inspire ambition to acquire knowledge. Who has not felt the enthusiasm, which a valuable and extensive library kindles? who will not acknowledge that some of the noblest plans and purposes of literary utility and elegance have originated in these repositories of genius and erudition.

If, as has been often argued, the grade of intellectual character in a people may be in a good measure computed from their attention and liberality to such establishments; it must excite the most agreeable emotions to reflect on the progress which we are making in this respect towards respectability. To say nothing of the Athæneum in this metropolis, which, if pursued with the zeal and ability with which it has been commenced and progressed thus far, will vie at no distant day with the most celebrated institutions of Europe, it must be a source of pride and pleasure to notice the attention which is now paid to municipal and professional social libraries. In this town and vicinity the gentlemen of the bar, and in medical practice, have for some

time been collecting libraries in their respective sciences; and the ministers have recently commenced one in their's. The corporation of 'King's Chapel,' with polite and ready liberality, have deposited in the Theological Library a very valuable collection of books, presented to them by the society in England for propagating the gospel. Among these is a very excellent copy of the Polyglott of B. Walton, and a greater number of the Fathers than are probably to be found in America. At the time of the revolution, and the general confusion which ensued on the commencement of that event, many books belonging to this church were removed and scattered. They may be easily known by those into whose hands they have fallen, each volume being impressed with gilded letters on one cover 'De Bibliotheca de Boston,' on the other 'Sub auspiciis Wilhelmi III.' Any person, who may possess such books, or know of any, is requested to return them, or give information where they may be found to any member of the Chapel Society, or to the chamber of the Theological Library in Devonshire Street.

MISNOMERS.

In the Review of Holmes's Annals, in the Anthology for February, an anonymous history of South-Carolina and Georgia is attributed to Mr. Hewitt. This gentleman's name has also been mistaken by Drayton in his View of South-Carolina, by Dr. Morse, and others. The true orthography is Hewatt, Rev. Alexander, now D.D. one of the ministers of Edinburgh.

He was a clergyman of the Scotch Presbyterian Church in Charleston, S. Carolina; but being

a royalist, he went home at the breaking out of the differences with the mother country. A volume of sermons, published in 1803, has added to his former high reputation as an elegant and correct writer. He purposed in 1806 to republish his history, which has now become very scarce, with a continuation to that period. We hope he will prosecute his purpose and meet with the encouragement he richly merits.

Another very common and general mistake in spelling has often excited surprise, and been the subject of fruitless inquiry. The capital of the Windward Caribbee islands is uniformly written Barbados by the residents there, in the royal commissions to the governours and officers, and by the best geographers and gazetteers, till within a few years. For some reason, or none, a gratuitous *e* has been inserted in the last syllable by recent historians and topographers. Hughes' Natural History of the Island, Douglas's Summary, Burke's European Settlements, and most if not all before 1775 have the ancient; and as we think, till better advised, the true orthography.

COMMENCEMENT DAY

is an attractive festival to all descriptions of our people. The wealthy welcome it as one of the occasions on which they may nobly exercise hospitality, or participate, in turn, of the elegances of a college entertainment. The man of business is pleased with the opportunity of a holiday to take a pleasant excursion into the pleasant villages which surround our metropolis. Persons of various classes and ages unite in its celebration, and with one heart and voice pronounce it a favourite

season, and to this vicinity the carnival of the year. But to Harvard's sons this day has a peculiar value. It interests all their social, it delights all their literary attachments. Reason and feeling combine to endear the venerable domes and groves of Cambridge to all who have tenanted those walls and strolled in those woods. The meeting of classmates and cotemporaries revives the loved impressions of former years. The cares and perplexities, disappointments and regrets of vulgar life, are at these precious moments forgotten; and with hearts void of care and vexations, as in old times, they crowd to the chapel of prayer and the hall of refreshment. Here many solemn recollections crowd on the memory of numbers whose faces once gladdened these rooms, now not to be seen there; some detained by indispensable avocations, some remote in foreign climes, some registered in the catalogue of death. By the literary exhibitions they are reminded of their own efforts at eloquence and argument; and probably acknowledge that few if any after attempts have seemed to themselves so successful, or given so much satisfaction. The antique chair, from which is pronounced the classic meed; the academick fraternity in their appropriate garbs; the crowd of spectators, all with smiling countenances and gay attire, agreeably engage the thoughts and amuse the fancy. The temperate gratifications of the festive board succeed; and 'commons are remembered with many pleasing & mortifying associations.' They unite in the solemn song,

"Which our Forefathers' pious care
To us has handed down,
And Generations yet to come
Shall, to their unborn Heirs,

Religiously transmit the same
And they again to theirs."

This customary service past, and one tributary glass gone round to 'the memory of revered instructors and beloved associates,' one soothing cigar consumed, and a pensive glance taken all around, under the impression that it may be the last time these joys are to be tasted, each retires, and returns home, 'dragging at each remove a lengthening chain.'

LATIN POETRY.

One loves occasionally to look over the efforts of modern genius to imitate ancient song. From the literary repast on the mature fruits of Virgil and Horace, Juvenal and Ovid, we recur for a little time to Grotius and Milton, Gray and Addison, as at our social computations we sometimes diversify the rich wines of the Western Isles with preparations and admixtures from our own orchards and gardens. Courteous friend, will you sip with us one *glass* (no *fun* is meant, be assured) of Addison.

BAROMETRI DESCRIPTIO.

"Quin age, sume tubum fragilem cui
densior aër,
Exclusus; fundo vitri subsidat in imo
Argenti stagnum; ut, pluvia impen-
dente, metallum
Mobile descendat, vel contra, ubi pos-
tulat aestus,
Prodeat hinc liquor emergens, ut rursus
inane
Occupet ascensu, tulumque excurrat
in omnem."

BLENHHEIM PARK.

The palace or castle of Blenheim, one of the most magnificent piles of architecture in Great Britain, and perhaps in the whole world, stands in the finest part of one of the finest counties in England, within half a mile of the borough of New Woodstock; dis-

tant about eight miles from the University of Oxford, and sixty-three from London. The surrounding country is fertile and irri-
guous, adorned with woods, and abounding with seats of the nobility and gentry; the air is pure, mild, and salubrious; and all the necessaries and many of the elegancies of life are plentiful and choice.

Blenheim was built at the publick expense in the reign of queen Anne, by whom, with the concurrence of parliament, which voted half a million for its completion, it was conferred, together with the annexed demesnes, on the most illustrious John Duke of Marlborough, as a testimony of royal favour and national gratitude for his transcendent services, and the many signal victories he had gained over the French and Bavarians, particularly that near the village of Blenheim, on the banks of the

Danube, from which this noble palace receives its name.

Blenheim is the triumph of picturesque gardening....it is the nobler triumph of national generosity. Imagine a magnificent park of twelve miles square, where all the sublimity of thousands of aged oaks and elms, the beauty of a spreading lake, the swell of hills and lawns, the continual softness of a velvet turf, the sportiveness of deer, kids, horses, and the massive grandeur of Vanbrugh's architecture, are all brought together in one coup d'œil, and you will get a faint idea of some of the views with which this spot abounds. Versailles with all its grand formality would be really uninteresting, if it could be put by the side of Blenheim. Such is the difference between nature assisted by art, and nature destroyed or concealed by art, though a thousand times more laborious, and expensive.

POETRY.

FOR THE ANTHOLOGY.

Liverpool, 18th June, 1807.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

The following loose version of the twenty-fourth ode of the first book of Horace, beginning 'Quis desiderio sit pudor, aut modus,' is the fruit of one of those many hours in which the remembrance of our dear Walter fills my mind. It has no merit as a translation; but the application of it to a friend so dear as he was to us, however faintly it may express our grief, can never appear to you unnatural. I have omitted in the last verse some of Horace's mythological sentimentality, and added a sentiment which, I suspect, rarely troubled the Epicurean friend of Virgil.

AD VIRGILIUM. DE MORTE QUINTILII VARI.

Quis desiderio sit pudor, aut modus
Tum chari capitis? Præcipe lugubres
Cantus Melpomene, cui liquidam pater
Vocem cum citharâ dedit.

Ergo Quintilium perpetuus sopor
Urget? Cui pudor, et justitiæ soror
Incorrupta Fides, nudaque Veritas,
Quando ullum invenient parem?

Multis ille bonis flebilis, occidit :
 Nulli flebilior, quam tibi, Virgili.
 Tu frustra pius, heu, non ita creditum
 Poscis Quintilium Deos.

Quod si Threicio blandius Orpheo
 Aëditam moderere arboribus fidem
 Non vanæ redeat sanguis imagini,
 Quam virgâ semel horridâ

Non lenis precibus fata recludere
 Nigro compulerit Mercurius gregi.
 Durum. Sed levius fit patientiâ
 Quicquid corrigere est nefas.

TRANSLATION.

TO W. S. S. ON THE DEATH OF OUR FRIEND A. M. WALTER.

POUR, muse, thy melancholy voice,
 Responsive, to thy mourning chords :
 —He's dead, and altered are the joys
 Which life without him still affords.

Does he then sleep in death forever ?
 Oh no ! for Faithfulness, and Truth,
 Friendship, and Science too, shall never
 Cherish again so fair a youth.

Dear to the good he died lamented ;
 To you how dear your sorrows say.
 But cease ; for ne'er has Death consented
 To yield us back so rich a prey.

What though your prayers were warm as e'er
 Assailed the mercies of the skies ?
 Ne'er shall the hue of health appear
 To warm his cheek, or light his eyes.

'Tis hard ; but patience slow and mild
 Corrects the ills she can't remove.
 —Father of mercies ! take thy child !
 His friends shall ne'er suspect thy love.

SELECTED.

THE MOLE HILL.

TELL me, thou Dust beneath my feet,
 Thou Dust, that once hadst breath ;
 Tell me, how many mortals meet
 In this small hill of death.

The Mole, that digs with curious toil
 Her subterranean bed,
 Thinks not she ploughs a human soil,
 And delves among the dead.

Yet ah ! where'er she turns the ground,
 Their ashes still I see,

For every atom of this mound
 Was once alive, like me.

Like me, those elder-born of clay
 A while enjoy'd the light ;
 They labour'd through their little day,
 And went to rest at night.

My night is coming on apace,
 And soon, as seasons roll,
 My dust, like theirs, shall mark the place
 That hides the mining Mole.

Far in the regions of the morn,
 The rising sun surveys

Palmyra's palaces forlorn,
Unveiling in his rays.

The Spirits of the desert dwell,
Where eastern grandeur shone ;
And vultures scream, hyenas yell,
Where Beauty held her throne.

In wild magnificent decay
The palaeid fabricks frown,
For storms have rent their strength a-
way,
Till breezes rock them down.

There oft the pilgrim, as he stands,
Sees, from the broken wall,
The shadow tottering on the sands,
Ere the loose fragment fall.

Destruction joys, amid those scenes,
To watch the sport of Fate,
While Time between the pillars leans
And bows them with his weight.

But towers and temples, crush'd by time,
Stupendous wrecks ! appear
To me less mournfully sublime,
Than the poor Molehill here.

Thro' all this hillock's crumbling mould,
Once the warm life-blood ran :
—Man ! thy own ruins here behold !
Behold *thy* ruins, Man !

Methinks the dust yet heaves with
breath ;
I feel the pulses beat :
O in this little hill of death,
How many mortals meet !

By wafting winds, and flooding rains,
From ocean, earth, and sky,
Collected here, the frail remains
Of slumbering millions liè.

O that the Muse's eye might trace
Each atom's former state,
Or pierce the Spirit's hiding place,
To scan its future fate !

Ah me !—the light of heaven decays,
And through the closing night,
The visions of departed days
Gleam on my opening sight.

All ages, and all nations, rise ;
For every grain of earth
Beneath my feet, before mine eyes,
Is statted into birth.

Where late the humble Molehill stood,
A mighty army stands,
From years beyond and since the flood,
From nigh and stranger lands.

Like rising mists, the shadowy forms
O'er the deep valley spread,

And like descending clouds, in storms,
Lour round the mountain's head.

O'er the wide champaign as they pass,
Their footsteps yield no sound,
Nor shake from the light trembling grass
A dew-drop to the ground.

Among their undistinguish'd hosts,
With transport, I behold
Awful, sublime, terrifick ghosts,
—Heroes and kings of old :—

Tyrants, the comets of mankind,
Whose blighting influence ran
Through all the Eden of the mind,
And smote, and milde w'd man :—

Sages, the Pleiades of earth,
Whose genial aspects smiled,
And flowers and frutrage sprang to birth
O'er all the human wild.

Yon gloomy ruffian, gash'd and gor'd,
Was he, whose care and akill
First beat the ploughshare to a sword,
And taught the *art* to kill.

Behind him skulks a shade, bereft
Of fondly-worshipt fame :
He built the pyramids,—yet left
No stone to tell his name !

But who is he, with visage dark
As tempests when they roar ?
—The first who push'd his daring bark
Beyond the coward shore.

Through storms of death, and seas of
graves,
He steer'd with steadfast eye ;
His path was on the desert waves,
His compass in the sky.

That youth, who lifts his graceful hand,
First smote the marble block,
And Beauty leap'd, at his command,
A Venus from the rock.

Trembling with ecstasy of thought,
Behold the Grecian maid,
Whom love's enchanting impulse taught
To trace a slumberer's shade.

Sweet are the thefts of love,
She stole his image while he lay,
Kindled the shadow to a soul,
And breathed that soul through clay.*

* *The daughter of a potter at Corinth pencilled out the shade of her lover on the wall, by candle-light, while he slept, which her father filled up with clay, and baked the image in his furnace ; thus producing the first rude portrait of the human face.*

Yon lightning-musick, who looks behind,
With countenance of fire,
Heard midnight musick in the wind,
And framed th' Solian lyre.

All hail!—the Sire of Song appears,
The Muse's eldest born,
The Sky-lark in the dawn of years,
The Poet of the morn.

He from the depth of cavern'd woods,
That echoed to his voice,
Bade mountains, vallies, rocks, and floods,
And heaven and earth, rejoice.

Charm'd into meekness, while he sung,
The wild beasts round him ran;
But O the triumph of his tongue!
—It tamed the heart of man.

Dim through the midst of twilight times,
The ghost of Cyrus walks;
And ponder, red with glorious crimes,
Stern Alexander stalks.

Here Hannibal, in all the pride
Of scowling hatred pours;
There Cæsar,—Brutus at his side,
In fiery grandeur towers.

With moon-light softness, Helen's
charms
Break through the spectred gloom;
The Cynocure of Greece in arms,
That blaz'd o'er Iliou's tomb.

But Homer,—see the bard arise!
And hark! he strikes the lyre;
The Dardan warriors lift their eyes,
The Grecian chiefs expire.

And while his musick rolls along,
The towers of Troy sublime,
Rais'd by the magick breath of song,
Mock the destroyer, Time.

For still around th' eternal walls
The storms of battle rage,
And Hector conquers, Hector falls,
: Swept in every age.

Genius of Homer, were it mine
To track thy fiery car,
And in thy sunset course to shine
A radiant evening star;

What theme, what legend, might the
Muse
Reclaim from ages fled?
What realm-restoring Hero chase
To summon from the dead?

Yonder his shadow sits away:
—Thou shalt not yet depart;
Stay, thou transcendent spirit! stay,
And tell me who thou art.

—'Tis ALFRED!—In the rolls of fame,
And on a midnight page,
Blazes his broad refulgent name,
The watch-light of his age!

A Danish winter, from the north,
How'd o'er the British wild;
But Alfred, like the spring, brake forth,
And all the desert smil'd.

Back to the deep he roll'd the waves
By mad invasion hurld;
His voice was liberty to slaves!
' Defiance to the world!

And still that voice, o'er land and sea,
Shall Albion's foes appal;
The race of Alfred will be free:
—Hear it,—and tremble,—Gaul!

But lo! the phantoms fade in flight,
Like fears that cross the mind,
Like drowning seaman's shrieks, by
night,
That faint along the wind.

They were,—they are not,—all is past:
—Tell me,—but who can tell
In what mysterious regions cast,
Immortal spirits dwell?

I know not,—but I soon shall know,
When life and suffering cease;
When this desponding heart lies low,
And I shall rest in peace.

For see,—on death's bewildering way,
The rainbow, HOPE, arise;
—A bridge of glory o'er the grave,
That bends beyond the skies.

From earth to heaven it swells, and shines
A pledge of bliss to man,—
Time with eternity combines,
And grasps them in a span.

Sheffield, England, May 2, 1806.

THE BOSTON REVIEW,

FOR

AUGUST, 1807.

Liberum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotari, quæ commutanda, quæ exitienda, arbitrarer. Nam ego dicere vero auserui. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. FLIN.

ARTICLE 46.

Reports of cases argued and determined in the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, during the year 1806. By Dudley Atkins Tyng, esq. counsellor at law. Newburyport, E. M. Blant. pp. 268.

Reports of judicial decisions, when accurately made, are instructive to the general reader, and of the highest utility to the professional advocate. In all countries such decisions are examined with publick interest, and in those, where courts promulgate the binding law of the land, unalterable except by the legislature, they have obtained peculiar reverence. In a free government, where the life, liberty, and property of every person is subject to the control of the laws, and of the laws only, their security requires, that tribunals of justice should not only be enlightened and impartial, but should be so deemed in the publick opinion. Nothing can be better, calculated to enforce such a belief, than a correct detail of their proceedings.

Within the last half century a variety of reports of decisions, in the superior courts of Great Britain have been published, which in authenticity and accuracy are undoubtedly far above those which pre-

ceded them. With the exception of a few, and among these should certainly be named the commentaries of Plowden, and the Reports of Dyer, Coke, and Saunders, the ancient reporters are generally obscure in their method, and frequently inaccurate in their statements and language. Loose notes from the paper books of eminent judges, or hasty sketches from the briefs of eminent counsel have too often been crowded into the publick view 'with all their imperfections on their head,' and added to the perplexities and the doubts of succeeding ages. We can hardly be deemed severe, if with Mr. Justice Buller*, we include in this number the collections under the name of Comberbach and Noy.

It has therefore been with pride and pleasure, that in the volumes of Burrow, Cowper, Douglas, Henry Blackstone, and the Term Reports, we have seen the modern adjudged cases presented in a succinct and authentick form in nearly a continuous series. Of the various methods, adopted by them, each has its advantages and its defects; but we feel ourselves compelled to prefer that, which unites brevity with precision and clearness. The multiplicity of modern law

* In *Bishop of London v. Fytche* Dom. Proc. 1783.

books makes it desirable to reach the point decided with as little unnecessary labour, as possible.

The United States have, until within a few years, trusted to tradition the reasons of their judicial decisions. But with wealth and commerce, and with more enlarged views of jurisprudence it became obvious, that the exposition of our statutes, and the validity of our customs should rest upon a more secure basis, than the memory of man, or the silent influence of unquestioned usage. Accordingly, reports have been published in many states, and of these among the best are Dallas, Cranch, Caines, and Johnson. On the merits of these we are not now called to decide; but the perusal of some of them induces us to suggest, that the insertion of the elaborate arguments of counsel at full length is neither useful nor necessary. An abstract of the principal points, and a summary view of the leading arguments, urged in their support, comport best with the design of publications of this nature. It adds no inconsiderable weight to this suggestion, that the price of law-books has already become a serious burthen to the profession.*

We have heretofore had occasion to notice a volume of Reports of the Supreme Judicial Court of this Commonwealth; and we announce with pleasure the present, as a continuation under the patronage of the legislature. Mr. Tyng, who has succeeded Mr. Williams in the office of Reporter, offers to the publick, in this first part, the decisions of the year 1806; and has executed the task in a manner

* Dallas and Cranch are particularly faulty in this respect, though we feel no disposition to depreciate their general merit. Johnson is particularly valuable.

highly creditable to himself, and we believe, satisfactory to the profession. It was to be expected, that the embarrassments of a first attempt under a system not perfectly organized for the purpose, would occasion some errors, which a more distinct separation of law and fact would correct, and some decisions, which a more nice discrimination between *nisi prius* and *bank* duties, would not indulge in regular reports. But in time the novelty of the undertaking would wear away; and familiarity would render a technical language and manner, of equal ease here as in the arguments and judgments of Westminster hall. We considered therefore the Reports of Mr. Williams as entitled to a candid examination; and though not perfect in method, yet leading, and honourably leading the way to more exact and more erudite labours. — The gradual improvements, which we anticipated, appear in the volume of his successor, whose modesty has asked indulgence for errors and defects, which, if they exist at all, are neither numerous nor material. In his preface he says; 'Errors and defects of another class will occur to the learned reader. To the candour of such the Reporter believes, that besides the novelty of the employment to him, several other circumstances will suggest themselves as forming some excuse for such errors and defects.'

The method, which Mr. Tyng has adopted, meets our entire approbation. It states the reasoning of counsel concisely, yet clearly, and the opinions of the court fully, and, as far as our knowledge extends from our own notes, very accurately. The points of the cause, stripped of extraneous circumstances, are generally presented in a space, which is unexcep-

tionable: The style is simple, but appropriate; and the judicious arrangement of the scholar and the lawyer is every where visible.

The volume contains a considerable number of cases, some of local, and many of general interest. It is not our design to enter into a minute review of them, either as it respects their juridical soundness, or their relative importance. It is not for us to question the judgments of the supreme tribunal of the commonwealth, delivered by judges of great personal and professional respectability. They have pronounced and declared the law of the land; and from their characters and stations we should not lightly doubt the authority of principles, which have been weighed with care, and argued with solemnity. In the few remarks, which we may hazard in respect to any new cases, we beg to be understood, as less questioning the law, than suggesting difficulties of our own, which are perhaps unfounded.

The decision in the case of *Amory v. Gilman* (page 1), by which the validity of a wager policy at common law is *here* shaken, if not denied, is consonant in our opinion with the dictates of sound morals and equity. It was a gratification to us to find the opinions of Mr. Justice Buller and Mr. Serjeant Marshall on this subject supported by all the weight of the bench. Should the validity of wagers generally ever come in question, we hope to hear pronounced in the words of an enlightened judge* in this cause, 'It would seem a disgraceful occupation of the courts of any country to sit in judgment between two gamblers, in order to decide which was the best calcula-

tor of chances, or which had the most cunning of the two. There would be but one step of degradation below this, which is, that the judges should be the stakeholders of the parties.'

In the *Commonwealth v. Andrews* (page 14), the court decided, that where goods are stolen in another state, and received in this, as such, the party so receiving is liable to indictment at common law, as a receiver of stolen goods. The liberal spirit which dictated this decision upon principles tending to cement the polity of the Union, will meet, we trust, the attention of our sister states.

The case of *Brooks v. Dorr* and another (page 39), which decides, that a sailor is entitled to his wages, notwithstanding a capture, in consequence of which he is separated from the vessel, if the vessel afterwards proceed and earn freight, is argued by the judges at great length, and with great ability. It has shaken the case of the *Friends, Bell*. 4 Rob. Adm. Rep. 143, which had been previously questioned in *Beale v. Thompson*, 4 East. Rep. 560. At the close of his opinion (page 50) an observation is dropped by the chief justice (Dana), which we fear we do not understand. He says, 'It will be understood, that no decision is made by this judgment, of a case, in which it should appear, that seamen had been hired to supply the place of the *Pltff.* within the time, for which he demands wages. That is not the present question, and it will be time enough to decide it, when it is regularly before the court.'—On recurrence to the state of facts it appears, that the captain actually hired other seamen to complete the voyage, and during the time for which the plaintiff claimed, and is allowed

* Mr. Justice Parker, p. 6.

wages by the judgment in this case.

In the case of *Benson v. Swift* (page 50), we observe the case of *Mitchill v. Neal*, Cowp. 828, cited by the counsel. That case was expressly over-ruled in *Burgess v. Freelove*, 2 Bos. & Pul. 425; but by some may be thought in *some degree* restored by *English v. Purser*, 6 East. Rep. 395.

In *May v. Calder* (page 55), it was decided, that the lease of an infant's land by his father, as natural guardian, is void. The expressions used by the court are very general; but we presume that they are to be referred to the facts of that particular case. In *1 Wooddeson*, 489, 460, and authorities cited in note (L.) it is stated, that a guardian by nurture may at least make a lease at will. If it did not savour of too much nicety, we should in this case call the father guardian by *nurture*, rather than by *nature*, according to the distinction in *Hargrave's note on Co. Litt. 88. b. note (13)*.

In *Richardson and another in error v. Noyes and another* (page 56), will be found a very elaborate opinion of the court, delivered by Mr. Justice Sedgwick, in which the doctrine of executory devises is discussed with great learning. At the close of it, we are furnished with a note of the argument of Mr. Parsons, of counsel for the defendants in error, which has been truly declared by the court to be very ingenious and very able.

In page 77 occurs a memorandum of the resignation of chief justice Dana, and we can truly say, in the words of the reporter, 'The remembrance of the impartiality, dignity, and learning, exhibited by him, will be long cherished by those, who have been concerned in the business of this court, while he

held a seat on the bench.' The Hon. Theophilus Parsons was appointed as his successor. May this gentleman, so long the distinguished ornament of the bar, for many years continue on the bench, et dulce decus et præsidium.

The case of *Perkins v. Burbank* (page 81), on a question of special pleading, we admitted with some hesitation; and had prepared a note of some length on the subject. But knowing, as we do, the peculiar eminence in this branch of law of the chief justice, who delivered the opinion of the court, and considering him entitled to the eulogy of the late lord Kenyon on baron Comyns, 'that he was the ablest pleader of his day in all Westminster hall,' we have feared a fallacy in our view of the case, and have suppressed it.*

In *Pearsall and others v. Dwight and others* (page 84), is a decision in conformity with the principles in *Nash v. Tupper*, 1 New-York Term Rep. 402. As it is of considerable importance, and strongly illustrates the doctrine of the operation of the *lex loci* on contracts, we shall quote in a subsequent

* Lest however our doubt should appear wholly idle, we would refer to *Webber v. Twill*, 2 Saund. 227, *Mumphreys v. Churchman*, B. R. H. 289, (this is usually cited, *Cases in K. B. 7 to 10 Geo. II. temp. Hardwick*), *Freeman v. Hurst*, 1 T. Rep. 40; 1 *Tidd's Pr.* 3d edit. 637 note (i); *Laws on Plead. app. 238 and note (2)*; and the note of serj. Williams in *Manchester v. Vale*, 1 Saund. 28, note 2; as shewing that a replication may, without being double, contain separate answers to different parts of an entire plea, provided the whole form but one complete answer to the plea; and one entire support of the declaration; and that where the plea is entire, and the replication does not contain an answer to the plea, as it respects some counts in the declaration, such replication is bad.

page the opinion of the court, as delivered by the chief justice.

The case of *Wright v. Wright* (page 109), adjudging that the mother of a bastard child has a right to the custody of it, in preference to the putative father, agrees with *Rex v. Soper*, 5 T. Rep. 279, and *Rex v. Mosely*, 5 East. Rep. 224, note (a).

In *Nelson v. Andrews* (p. 164), it is settled, that arbitrators have a right to award concerning the costs of a suit referred to them. And with this agrees the English doctrine in *Sheppard v. Brand B. R. H. 63*. *Chandler v. Fuller*, *Willes 62*, *Barnes 56, 58*. *Roe v. Doe*, 2 T. Rep. 644.

In *Merry in Rev. v. Prince* (page 177), the question was agitated, whether the statute of 19 Geo. II. ch. 37, respecting re-assurances, extended to this country; and after an able argument the court were of opinion, that it did not.

In *Sparhawk v. Bartlett* (page 188) it is decided, that in this commonwealth an action lies against the sheriff for taking insufficient bail. In England the law is admitted to be otherwise; but the reasons, upon which a different adjudication is made here, are most satisfactorily and learnedly expounded in the opinions delivered by Mr. Justice Sewall and Mr. Justice Sedgwick.

An interesting discussion occurs in the case of *Killam vs. Ward* and others in Rev. page 236, and in *Gardner v. The Same*, cited in page 244 of the same case in a note, respecting the question of the alienage of persons, who went away from this country during the revolution, and adhered to Great Britain. The cases are argued at large, and commented on with great diligence and ingenuity by

the court. A variety of important principles seem to be put at rest by these decisions, which we recommend to the examination of the bar.

We have thus noticed in a cursory manner a few of the more striking causes reported in the volume. On the whole, upon a careful review we must express our satisfaction with the manner, in which the work is executed. We confidently believe, that it will reflect honour on the Bar and the Bench. Time may lead to some improvements in the method of an undertaking, the difficulties of which can be realized only by experience. But time will not rob the Reporter of the reputation of diligence and fidelity, nor the court of the praise of ingenuity and erudition.*

As a specimen of the work we shall select one or two of the short cases, which, we regret, are all

* We are led to observe, that intelligent and fair minds usually think alike on all important occasions, where they deliberately exercise their judgment, and are free from prejudice, from the circumstance, that throughout this volume we do not find one instance, in which the court are divided in opinion. It may therefore be considered as a work containing cases settled as well as adjudged. We observe likewise, that where one judge pronounces the opinion of the court, it usually combines learned research with a dignified style and manner. Instances of this are frequent in the work, and do not require a particular enumeration. A judge, feeling that he is expressing the opinion of his brethren, and that his own character as a lawyer and as a scholar is in question, will naturally on such an occasion exert all the energies of his mind. From the present arrangement of the judicial department, under the auspices of the government of the commonwealth, we indulge the hope, that the juridical character of Massachusetts is about to exhibit a 'novus ordo seclorum.'

our limits will admit. We shall then take our farewell with the recommendation of Horace to the professional student.

*si quid novisti rectius istis,
Candidus imperti; si non, his utere mecum.*

Thomas Pearsall & al. v. Josiah Dwight & al.

Assumpsit on a promissory note. As the pleadings in this case are fully stated in the opinion of the court as delivered by the Chief Justice, for the sake of brevity they are here omitted. The question on the pleadings was, whether to an action in this commonwealth on a promissory note made in New-York and payable there, the plaintiffs being inhabitants of that state, and the defendants inhabitants of this commonwealth, a plea of the Statute of Limitations of the state of New-York was a good bar.'

'The opinion of the court was afterwards delivered by

PARSONS, C. J. From the record in this cause the declaration appears to be on a negotiable cash note, payable by the defendants to the plaintiffs, or their order, on demand. To this declaration there is a plea in bar, alleging that the plaintiffs long before, at the time, and ever since the note was executed, were inhabitants of the state of New-York; that the note was there made; that before it was made, and six years before this action was commenced, there was a statute of that state still in force, which, among other things, limited the time of suing an action of this description to six years next after the cause of action accrued, which part of the statute is particularly pleaded with a *proffert* of the exemplification of the whole statute, and there is the averment necessary to bring this action within that statute.

The plaintiffs in the replication neither pray oyer of the exemplification of that statute, nor particularly plead any exceptions made in it, but confess and would avoid the bar, by alleging that the defend-

ants were, during all the time, inhabitants of this state.

The defendants, in their rejoinder, confess and would avoid the replication, by averring that, since the making of the note, and more than six years before this action was commenced, the defendants went and returned to the state of New-York, and were there ten days, with the knowledge of the plaintiffs.

To this rejoinder the plaintiffs demur generally, and the defendants join in demurrer. Whether this rejoinder be good, is the issue in law immediately before the court."

If the matters alleged in the replication are sufficient to avoid the bar, the rejoinder must be bad, because it neither traverses those matters; nor shews any provision of the statute of New-York, by which the effect of the replication is avoided by the collateral facts pleaded in the rejoinder.

For the same reason, if the matters alleged in the bar are sufficient in law, the replication must be bad, for the plaintiffs do not plead any exception in that statute, by which the bar, when confessed, may be avoided. Notwithstanding the *proffert* of the exemplification of that statute, yet if it contained any exception, on which the plaintiffs intended to rely, they ought either to have prayed oyer and spread the whole statute upon the record, or to have particularly pleaded such exception in their replication, and then to have made the allegation necessary to bring their case within it. This reasoning is grounded on the opinion that, if that statute can avail in this court, when pleaded in bar, the bar cannot be avoided, but by virtue of some provision of the same statute. As the pleadings now are, the court cannot take notice of any parts of that statute, but of those which are particularly shewn in the bar.

Although the rejoinder be bad, yet if the replication is also bad, the defendants must have judgment, if the bar be good.

Thence the great question in the cause is, whether to an action commenced in a court in this state, by the plaintiffs, inhabitants of New-York, on this note there executed, by the defendants, inhabitants of this state, the statute of limitations of the state of New-York can be pleaded in bar.

That the statute of another state cannot *proprio vigore* have the force of law in this state is very clear, and its effect in this court must depend on the laws of the commonwealth.

It is a general rule, that personal contracts entered into, and to be performed in any one state, and which are there valid, are to be considered as valid in every other state.

This rule is founded on the tacit consent of civilized nations, arising from its general utility, and seems to be a part of the law of nations adopted by the common law.

To give effect to contracts of this description, is an act of comity due from the courts of the state in which such contracts may be sued to the state in which they may be made.

This rule is subject to two important exceptions. First, that neither the state in whose court the contract is put in suit, nor its citizens may suffer any inconvenience by giving the contract effect. And secondly, that the consideration of the contract be not immoral, and the giving it effect will not have a bad tendency. Under these exceptions, the cases, which do not come within the rule, may be classed.

The contract on which this action is founded is clearly within the rule. It was made in *New-York*, and might there be performed: The plaintiffs, when it was made, were inhabitants of that state, and so are the defendants to be considered in this cause by going and making the contract there: The contract, when made, was valid by the laws of *New-York*: The giving it effect here cannot be injurious to the Commonwealth, or its citizens, nor have an evil tendency:

And the consideration is not immoral: The court are therefore obliged, by the laws of the Commonwealth, to consider it as a valid contract, according to the true construction of the rule.

The party claiming the benefit of the note in this case has sued it originally in a court in this state; the law of the state of *New-York* will therefore be adopted by the court, in deciding on the nature, validity, and construction of this contract. This we are obliged to do by our own laws. So far the obligation of comity extends, but it extends no farther. The form of the action, the course of judicial proceedings, and the time when the action may be commenced, must be directed, exclusively, by the laws of this Commonwealth.

These are matters not relating to the validity of the contract; and to permit the laws of another state to control the court in its proceedings concerning them, would trench upon the authority of our own laws unnecessarily and for no principle of *common utility*. Cases may also be supposed, in which this permission might be injurious to our citizens. If the state, in which the contract was made, had no statute of limitations, then by the *lex loci* the action might there be commenced at any time, and if the plaintiff should afterwards remove to this state and commence his action in our court, the defendant would be deprived of the benefit of the limitations here in force. That the form of the action must be conformable to our laws, the case of *Folliot vs. Ogden* (7) is an authority. In giving the opinion of the court, *Lord Loughborough* considers it as law, that when a bond made in a foreign state, by whose laws it is assignable, is sued at law in *England*, the suit must be according to the laws of *England*, in the name of the obligee, and not of the assignee, although it be for his use, because, there, bonds are not assignable *at law*. As to

(7) 1 *H. Blacks.* 135.

the time when the suit may be commenced, no authorities in point have been cited from our books, nor do I recollect any : (8) but the subject has been considered by foreign jurists of great merit.

In the prelections of *Huber*, under the title *De Conflictu Legum*, (9) he states a case, in which an action was commenced in a court of *Friesland*, by an *Hollander* against a *Frieslander*, on a contract made in *Holland*, and the limitation, in force in *Friesland*, was pleaded against the action. The *Hollander* contended that it could not be pleaded against him, to that contract, which was to be decided by the *lex loci*, or the laws of *Holland*. But the judgment was against the *Hollander*. After mentioning another case upon execution, in which the *lex loci* was not allowed to govern, the author adds — "*Hac est ratio, quod prescriptio et executio non pertinent ad valorem contractus, sed ad tempus et modum actionis instituenda, qua per se, quasi contractum separatumque negotium constituit; adeoque receptum est optima ratione, ut in ordinandis judiciis, loci consuetudo ubi agatur, stae de negotio alibi celebrato, spectetur.*"

It is therefore the opinion of the court that the plea in bar is not good.

Consequently the judgment on the demurrer must be, that it appears to the court that the rejoinder is bad and insufficient in law, &c.

Simcon Nelson, plaintiff in error, v. William Andrews.

This was a writ of error brought to reverse a judgment of the court of common pleas for this county rendered in May, 1800. The original action, with all demands be-

(8) But see the case of *Duplein vs. De Rouen*, in 2 *Vern.* 540, in which the statute of limitations of England was allowed to be pleaded, where the contract was made abroad between two foreigners. C. J.

(9) *Vol. 2, Lib 1.*

tween the parties, was referred in the court below and the report of the referees was that *Andrews*, who was original plaintiff should recover 6 dols. 69 cents damage and costs of reference, with one quarter part of the costs of court. The court, notwithstanding this report, gave judgment for full costs of court, and for this error the present process was instituted.

Bigelow, for the plaintiff in error, read the 3d. section of "an act for the limitation of personal actions and for avoiding suits at law," and the proviso annexed to that section, which last is in these words, "provided always, that where judgment shall be rendered upon this report of referees, full cost shall be taxed for the party recovering, notwithstanding the judgment be under four pounds, unless a different adjudication respecting the costs shall be made from the report itself." And he observed that in this case, the referees having made a different adjudication, the judgment of the court below ought to have been conformed to the report. And he further insisted,

1st. That for this error the judgment must be reversed *in toto*, and for this he cited *Lampson vs. Hatch* (1) and *Cunningham's Law Dict. Title Error*—and

2d. That the plaintiff in error was entitled to costs upon the writ of error. (2)

Ward, on the other side contended

1st. That the judgment in question was not erroneous. The statute gives full costs to all parties recovering damages by the report of referees, and the referees exceeded their commission when they made their award respecting the costs. As they had no authority on the subject, the court were right in giving full cost. But

(1) 2 *Str* 934.

(2) *Ferguson vs. Rawlinson*, 2 *Str.* 1084.—*Cro. Car.* 173, 145. *Pennudiel vs. Clerk*, *Cro. Elis.* 689—5. *Rep.* 101; *S. C.*

2dly. If the judgment is erroneous in this respect, this court is competent to set it right by reversing so much of it as is erroneous, viz. three fourths of the full costs: which last being 30 dols. 25 cents, the most that the plaintiff in error is entitled to recover is 22 dols. 76 cents, 1. *Str.* 188: and

3dly. That this being an error in matter of law only, the plaintiff in error was not entitled to costs upon the writ of error.

Bigelow, in reply, cited from "an act prescribing the forms of writs," &c. passed Oct. 30, 1784, Sect. 9.—"in all actions as well those of *qui tam* as others, the party prevailing shall be entitled to his legal costs against the other." And he contended that writs of error were within this provision.

PARKER, J. I am very clear that this judgment is erroneous. A submission of all demands between the parties was a submission of the question of the costs of the suit. If it were not so, the practice has uniformly prevailed, and been acquiesced in. In some cases referees award a large sum in damages, and yet determine that the party, in whose favour they make their award, shall recover no costs. The practice having thus obtained, I think that the referees did not exceed their authority, and that the court below, having accepted the report, ought to have conformed their judgment to it. I am therefore of opinion that the judgment of the common pleas should be reversed in part, viz. for the amount of three fourths of the costs allowed: and that the plaintiff in error is not entitled to his costs in this process, the error being entirely in matter of law.

SEWALL, J. The correctness of the judgment brought into question by this writ of error depends on the authority of the referees to make their award respecting the costs. Without looking into English authorities, it is sufficient that the practice here has been constant and uniform, and has been recognized by the legislature. The

court of common pleas ought then to have made their judgment conformable to the report in this case. Not having done so, the judgment is erroneous. It can however be set right, without a reversal *in toto*, and the error being in matter of law only, this must be done without costs.

SEDGWICK, J. The report in this case expressly limited the costs to be recovered by the plaintiff to one fourth part of the legal costs of the suit. That report was accepted by the court, and yet judgment was rendered for the whole of the legal costs. Is this error? I am most clearly satisfied that it is. On a general submission of all demands, as was the case here, nothing relative to costs is specifically submitted; but in practice referees have uniformly awarded respecting them, sometimes for the whole, sometimes for part, and sometimes for none; and this practice has been sanctioned by the court. The statute gives no express authority to the referees for this purpose, but it clearly supposes such authority to exist. The referees, then, having had authority to make this part of their report, the party ought to have taken his judgment, accordingly, for the one fourth part of the costs, and not having done so, but the judgment having been rendered for the whole legal costs, is for that reason erroneous.

Where part of a judgment can be reversed, and the rest remain, it is competent for this court to set it right. The error here being in matter of law, there can be no costs on the writ of error.

PARSONS, C. J. The report having been accepted by the court below, they ought to have pursued it in rendering their judgment, unless this part of the report can be rejected as surplusage. But if, by the terms of the submission, the referees had jurisdiction of the question of costs, their award concerning them is not to be rejected. This practice is of so long standing that it cannot now be shaken,

if we were so disposed. But the practice may be considered as beneficial. There may be reasons, respecting the allowance of costs, which in the minds of referees would very properly have weight, although they could not be admitted in a court of law. It may appear to them, that a creditor has unduly harrassed his debtor for a trifling demand, or has brought his action before the cause of action had accrued. Many other reasons may be conceived. It was therefore both legal and expedient that these referees should take the subject of costs into their consideration, and make their award concerning them. The court having accepted the report were bound by it, and ought to have followed it in rendering their judgment. There is no doubt then that their judgment is erroneous. As the error extends to part of the judgment only, it must be reversed for that part, and will remain good for the rest.

Let the judgment be reversed for three quarters of the costs: and as the error was of law, and not of fact, the plaintiff in error is not entitled to costs.

ART. 47.

A voyage to the eastern part of Terra Firma, or the Spanish Main, in South-America, during the years 1801, 1802, 1803, and 1804. Containing a description of the territory under the jurisdiction of the captain-general of Caracas, composed of the provinces of Venezuela, Maracaibo, Varinas, Spanish Guiana, Cumana, and the island of Margareta; and embracing every thing relative to the discovery, conquest, topography, legislation, commerce, finance, inhabitants, and productions of the provinces, together with a view of the manners and customs of the Spaniards, and the savage as well as civilized Indians. By F. Depons, late agent of the French government at Caracas. In three volumes. Vol.

I. with a large map of the country, &c. Translated by an American gentleman. 8vo. vol. 1 pp. 248. New-York, Riley & Co. and Brisban & Brannan.

THIS work is very interesting to the American publick. Our commercial connexions with some of the Spanish dominions, though illicit, have been profitable to us, and favoured by the colonists: but we are always desirous of ascertaining the secret springs of a machine, and therefore shall search these volumes for a knowledge of the unhappy policy, that restrains honourable traffick, and encourages smuggling. In the state of this particular division of the Spanish empire late events have conspired with the intrinsick value of the country to engage us. Without inquiring, whether the designs of Miranda were known to our government, or whether he would have been successful, had he proceeded directly to his place of destination, before the Chevalier d'Yrujo could send advices of his projects, we may wonder at the undertaking to establish a new empire with a force of eighty or a hundred undisciplined Americans.

The Introduction, translated by Dr. Mitchell, is an abstract of the author's work with an exposition of the defects of all other accounts of this country. He begins: 'The work, which I offer to the publick, has no other foundation than truth, nor any ornament but that which is derived from correctness.' He then shews the abundant productions of the colony, which in the hands of an enterprising people, might be increased a hundred fold.

'This sketch, which is rather below than above the truth, proves that there are few regions to which nature has been so lavish of her

favours, as to the one I am describing. In the eyes, and in the estimation of every reasonable man, both Mexico and Peru lose by the comparison; for as I have often had occasion to say, the mines which are daily becoming worse, are very far from insuring to the trade and navigation of the mother country, so many advantages, as can be derived from those productions which each year will renew, and which ages will but augment.

P. x. Int.

The writer enjoyed the best opportunities for acquiring the information he details to us, and explains the reason of the long ignorance, in which the world has rested, not only upon this, but other parts of the empire of Spain.

‘How has it happened, that the statistical account of a country so rich, extensive, and near to Europe as Terra Firma, is to this day so imperfect, while that of regions the most distant and difficult of approach, affords all the particulars that history can desire? It is because no nation repels with so much vigour from its possessions beyond the seas, every thing which is not of its own blood or descent as the Spanish. No stranger can tread in the districts of the Spanish possessions, especially on the American continent, far less become a resident in them, without an express permission from the king. This is very difficult to obtain, except for excursions which have no other object than to enlarge the domains of natural history. On the other hand, the eastern part of Terra Firma not working any mines, no Spaniard has been found willing to devote his talents and his vigilance to the description of a country, which the whole nation, greedy of mines, considers as but an indifferent possession.’ *P. xxi.*

Following the introduction we find an excellent map, which has long been a desideratum. Of this we hope American geographers

and historians will take due advantage.

The first chapter contains the history of the discovery of the country; its settlement by missionaries; their repeated expulsion; military expeditions; conquest of the interior; and foundations of cities. The first part is too well known to be transcribed; for who cannot trace the course of Columbus, Ojeda, and Vespuccius? Over the latter we have hurried, as over a field blasted by the fire of heaven; for who is unwilling to forget the atrocities of the Spanish soldiery? The author blames Las Casas, whom we have usually esteemed the patriarch of the Indians, and the true apostle of the divine religion he taught them.

The second chapter is geographical.

‘The country which I have undertaken to describe is the same as that which forms the captain-generalship of Caraccas. It comprehends the province of Venezuela in the centre, the government of Maracaibo on the west, Guiana on the south, the government of Cumana on the east, and the island of Margareta on the north-east.’ *P. 50.*

The description of the lake of Maracaibo is very satisfactory. A remarkable account of a mine on its borders may be worth extracting.

‘To the north-east of the lake, in the most barren part of the borders, and in a place called Mena, there is an inexhaustible stock of mineral pitch, which is the true natural pessaphalte. (*fix montana.*) When mixed with suet it is used for graving vessels.

The bituminous vapours which are exhaled from this mine are so easily inflamed, that during the night phosphorick fires are continually seen, which in their effects resemble lightning. It is remark-

ed that they are more frequent in great heat, than in cool weather. They go by the name of the Lantern of Maracaibo, because they serve for a lighthouse and compass to the Spaniards and Indians who, without the assistance of either, navigate the lake, and have no other object for observation but the sun during the day, and these fires at night. Nature seems purposely to have provided them for the protection and security of navigation." P. 69.

Perhaps the lake of Valencia is indebted to the author's love of wonder, or ignorance of philosophy, for the phenomenon he describes.

' This lake is from East N. E. to West S. W. thirteen leagues and a half, and its greatest breadth four. It has an oblong form. It is at the distance of one league from Valencia, and situated in a valley surrounded with mountains, excepting on the west, where it extends into the interior part of the country.

The waters of twenty rivers are discharged into it without any visible outlet. It is at about the distance of six leagues from the sea, and the space which separates them is filled with inaccessible mountains. It is the more difficult to account for its having no visible passage for discharge, as it receives rivers on all sides, which proves it to be a perfect basin. But, then, how should it have remained the same without increase or diminution of water for so many ages? would evaporation alone, great as it may be between the tropicks, have been adequate to the consumption of so great a quantity as the rivers supply? We must, therefore, suppose, not less out of compliment to human sagacity, than for the honour of natural philosophy, that there exists a subterraneous passage, by which as great a quantity of water is discharged, as is received from the rivers. This opinion, which I only offer as a conjecture, is supported by probabilities, which give it the appearance

of an undeniable truth. It is observed, that the boats which navigate this lake, sail with rapidity from the borders to the centre, where the navigator runs the risk of some dangers, but to return to the borders requires more time and trouble. What are we to conclude from this fact, but that there exists at the bottom of the lake an aperture, by which the waters are continually discharged? In this manner it may be accounted for, why this lake has not increased in proportion to the volume of water it has received. And this supposition, whether true or false, might be assigned as the cause of considerable depression, which the waters of the lake have experienced a few years since, and which still visibly continues. Were it possible to augment the quantity of water discharged by the subterraneous passage, the phenomenon would immediately be explained. But without having recourse to any occult cause, the reason of that rapid and continual diminution, is found in the increased consumption which the inhabitants have made of the water of the rivers that are discharged into the lake, in order to refresh their plantations. These waters diffused over a considerable surface, evaporate, or become an elementary principle of vegetation and are consequently lost to the general reservoir, which, as it receives less water, must necessarily decrease. In proportion as the lake diminishes it leaves uncovered lands, lands to which the slime, composed of all sorts of substances, deposited for ages past, has imparted a prodigious fertility. This new soil the cultivator fondly selects for the application of his anxious cares and the exercise of his laborious industry. P. 73, 4.

If the reader has a proper notion of evaporation beneath the tropicks, and remembers that these twenty rivers are very small, so that the longest has hardly thirty miles course, he need feel no anx-

ity, as we did at first, lest the neighbouring inhabitants may some day be deprived of their lake by its instantaneous departure on its subterranean voyage by increased outlets.

In the account of the rivers we are little interested. He says the river Guigues is sixteen leagues west of Coro. For west read east.

Of the ports we learn, that Porto Cabello, usually called by us Porto Bello, is the finest harbour in America, and La Guira one of the worst.

The port of La Guira is more frequented than any other upon the coast, and, at the same time, the least deserving of such a preference. Its road is always so open to the breeze, that the sea there is kept in a state of continual agitation, and the violence of the winds frequently occasions damage to the ships which ride at anchor. The surge is very prevalent here, which joined with the winds, contributes greatly to augment the inconveniences of this port. The depth of water does not exceed eight fathoms at the distance of one quarter of a league from the beach. The continual agitation of this road renders loading and unloading tedious, expensive, and difficult; sometimes even impossible. But that is not the only objection that can be made to it; the surge acts with the same violence at the bottom, as on the surface of the water: by which agitation the sand being stirred up and raised from the bottom is carried along by the current, and deposited upon the anchors, till they are in a short time so deeply buried under it, that before the expiration of a month, it is impossible to hoist them; they either break their cables, or are under the necessity of cutting them. To avoid the certain loss which would thus be incurred, every vessel is obliged to hoist anchor once every eight days. All that is necessary to be added to the sketch I have already given of

this place, is that the worms commit greater ravages in the port of La Guira than in any other. P. 90.

The description of the passage to leeward of Trinidad, called from its difficulty the Dragon's mouth, is particular, and may be useful.

The gulf of Paria has Terra Firma on the west, and Trinidad on the east. From these two lands, on the north, two points jut out, between which are two* islands, lying, with regard to these two points, due east and west, so as to close the gulf on the north, leaving, however, a sufficient space between them to form four openings, called the mouths of the Dragon, by which it discharges the superfluous waters. The largest, being two leagues broad, is that on the west between Point Paria of Terra Firma and the island of Chacachacares; on the west it is interspersed with rocks; but as they are all visible, and may be approached without danger, the navigator can easily keep clear of them. This is not the case with a rock, which just emerges from the surface at two cables length from the island of Chacachacares; its approach would be attended with some risk. Between the last island and that of Navios is a second mouth smaller than the first, called the Vessels. Its channel lying from N. to S. E. renders it very good for the going out, but very bad for the entrance of ships. The third is formed by the isle of Navios on the W. and that of Monas on the E. It is called the mouth of Huevos (*Egg's-Mouth*). Its direction is from N. N. E. to S. S. E. It is much more convenient to enter than to go out. The fourth is between that island and the point that is most to the W. S. W. † of the island of Trinidad. It is called the mouth de Los Monos, (*Monkey's-Mouth*) without doubt, because it is narrower, and more difficult, on account of a rock in the middle of it, which, from its position, occasions a continual commotion, at the same time

* It should be three.

† W. N. W.

that the land of Trinidad, by excluding the winds, preserves a calm, which is but rarely interrupted by momentary gusts. The passage for small craft lies between the island of Trinidad and the rock.'

P. 99.

From this island of Trinidad the English have a most profitable contraband trade with the Main. In this volume nothing is said on this subject, but we may find it in the next.

The account of the population, manners and customs of the people occupies the third chapter. Much amusing relation is found on these latter subjects. The population is not numerous.

' Thus, after all the information I have endeavoured to procure, I am authorised to allow

To the province of Venezuela, including Vari- nas, a population of	} 500,000
To the government of Maracaibo	
To that of Cumana	80,000
To Spanish Guiana	34,000
To the isle of Margareta	14,000

Total,	- - -	728,000
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In this population the whites are computed at two-tenths, the slaves at three, the descendants of freedmen at four, and the Indians compose the remainder.

This population upon a soil, whose fertility and extent might not only subsist, but enrich a hundred times the number, is certainly extremely moderate.'

P. 105.

On page 108 is a strange sentiment :

' Spain, more just or more tender towards her colonies, although without any pretensions to superior happiness in her domestic concerns, has always directed, and still continues to direct, her whole attention to preserve the purity of their morals, and prevent

them from receiving the taint of European corruption. From the 7th of August, 1584, no person has been permitted to go to the West-Indies, unless he could present authentic information with respect to his morals and good behaviour.'

But strangers, we are told, experience greater difficulties in settling in the colonies of Spain, than her own subjects. Yet the author tells us, that one article of the royal order permits residence for a tax of four hundred dollars, and another allows naturalization for a little less than four times that sum. Now, as none but merchants have any desire to settle in the Spanish colonies, and strangers are subject to many inconveniences, or, in other words, naturalized subjects enjoy great privileges, this fine would be readily paid by such, as expected to insure a fortune from the indulgence. But experience falsifies these calculations. The Spaniards are more jealous of intruders than the guardians of the golden fleece. We find on p. 110 some observations, which would support our conclusions without the abundant evidence we receive from American merchants :

' The great difficulty of getting settled in the Spanish colonies naturally excites in the breast of a foreigner, who is in pursuit of fortune, a desire of making a permanent establishment there. Some have fallen, and do fall, daily on the means of eluding the law, either by cunning address, or by the indulgence of the governors or commanders of the places to which they resort. If they are totally inactive, if they lead a life of indigence, intemperance, or, what would most recommend them, of abject beggary, they may remain without molestation, under the humiliating protection of Spanish contempt. If they practise some trade or profession, they are liable

to be denounced, persecuted, and treated as enemies by all the Spaniards of the same trade or profession; they must lend their money to any person who chooses to apply for it; and as soon as their generosity ceases, persecution begins. If they have any acquaintance above the common, they are always suspected; for it is the general opinion of the Spaniards, that every well informed foreigner must be an enemy to the laws of the country. No direct inquiry is ever made with respect to religion, unless the impiety of the individual is become notorious; they never have recourse to this measure, except when revenge has no other means of gratification, and then, nothing is more easy than to prove the irreligion of a foreigner, who had always before passed for a good christian. Witnesses then swear that he has spoken irreverently of the holy mysteries; that he only goes to church in order to be guilty of indecencies; that he has treated the ceremonies of religion with derision, &c. &c. It is however true, that the tribunals divested of the prejudices of ancient times, do not apply the rigour of the law to this sort of delinquency; but people frequently get clear by some years' imprisonment, by paying the expenses of prosecution, or by suffering banishment.' pag. 111.

The author next speaks of the emigration from the mother country. He says, the new settlers seldom return from the colonies, except indeed the Biscayans and Catalonians. This he observes upon, as the reverse of the principles of the English, French, and other Westindians. But the truth is, all the Europeans consider their Indian colonies as places of exile, where they labour for a fortune solely, and escape as soon as possible. The Spaniards, who grow rich, return home; but the indolence of the majority keeps them poor, as they first arrived; and

this is the reason of their continuance in America.

We next find a dissertation on the attachment of the Creoles to their country, and a description, perfectly true, we believe, though far from flattery, of their education and moral feelings. This is followed by some observations by D. Miguel Joseph Sanz, written with a boldness and intelligence, that we should think dangerous in a Spanish subject.

Of the frequency of law suits, without reason and without end, the author writes much. In a land of liberty litigation must be common; but in a colony, whose government never heard the name of liberty, and whose citizens would be wretched in possession of it, we think the opinion we have sometimes heard must be the only cause. The mother country, it is said, encourages law-suits. *Divide, et impera.* Keep one half fighting the other, and there is no fear of their fighting us.

The calculations on the quantum of litigation in each person of the two colonies of St. Domingo and Cuba is very erroneous, the former (if he alludes only to the Spanish part, and such, from the current of his argument we should suppose) being rated ten times too high, and the latter too low. If he would compare the French and Spanish colonists, he should have expressed it more precisely.

The relation of the conspiracy in 1797 is interesting and novel. But will not the government of the Spanish colonies be perpetually subject to such commotions? The volcanick fire is now smothered, but it is always labouring for explosion. Of the treatment of the slaves, we believe however, the writer has not formed a just idea, from comparison with their gov-

ernment in other colonies. The Spaniards have usually been praised for their mildness to their negroes.

This chapter is however worthy the attention of the moral philosopher and the politician. Much too is found of general importance in the fourth chapter on the character and government of the savages. But in this part, the shameful policy of Spain is most apparent. The Indians are so numerous, the author says, as to commit depredations on the colonists with impunity, and the Spaniards soon sue for peace.

'At Rio-de-la-Hache, treaties of this kind more frequently occur, than any where else, and the presents by which they are purchased, are attended with some abuses. In fact, they only tend to encourage the Indians to assume a hostile attitude without any real grounds of offence, and by the facility with which the persons charged with the negotiation can exaggerate the amount of what has been advanced for pacification, they procure themselves emoluments which must render such events more to be desired than apprehended.' P. 220.

The observation is general of the officers in the subordinate departments of the colonies of Spain, that fidelity to their government is their second consideration, private profit the first. Of the miserable result of all the attempts to civilize and christianize the savages, the author gives copious details.

'All the efforts of the legislator to inspire them with a desire of improving their natural faculties have proved abortive. Neither the good treatment which they have received on being admitted into society, nor the important privileges, with which they have been favoured, have been able to eradicate

their partiality for the savage life, although at present only known to them by tradition. There are very few civilized Indians, who do not sigh after the solitude of the forest, and embrace the first opportunity of retiring to it. This does not arise from their attachment to liberty, but from their finding the gloomy abode of the forest more congenial with their melancholy, superstition, and utter contempt of the most sacred laws of nature. For three ages have they laboured to impress on this miserable race of men some sense of right and wrong, and yet they are altogether regardless of the right of property, when they can violate it with impunity; they will not abstain from continual intoxication, as long as they are supplied with liquor; they will be guilty of incest whenever they have a convenient opportunity; of lying and perjury whenever it answers their purpose; and they will never submit to labour, but when compelled by hunger.

The Indians are so much accustomed to the practice of lying, and so little sensible of the sacred obligation of truth, that the Spaniards have thought it proper, in order to prevent the unhappy effects that their testimony might cause to innocent persons, to pass a law by which it is enacted, that not less than six Indians are to be admitted as witnesses in one cause, and the testimony of these six shall only be equivalent to the sworn evidence of one white person.

Thus we see that the statesman, with all his expedients and resources, has not been able to accomplish his object.' P. 240.

On the whole, we have seldom heard of a book republished in our country, which will repay the labour of perusal better than this; and we hope *Brisban & Brannan*, who have it for sale, will be compensated for their enterprize.

ART. 48.

Lectures on the elements of chemistry, delivered in the university of Edinburgh. By the late Joseph Black, M.D. professor of chemistry in that university, &c. &c. Published from his manuscripts, by John Robison, LL.D. professor of natural philosophy in the university of Edinburgh. First American from the last London edition. Philadelphia, for Matthew Carey. 3 vols. 8vo. 1807.

THE writings of Dr. Black are his best eulogy. Much credit, we think, is due to the American publisher, who has presented to his countrymen this correct edition of a work, which is one of the purest specimens of philosophical investigation, and of inductive reasoning, since the age of lord Verulam. The account of discoveries in science, and of the progressive efforts, by which the mind is conducted from known principles to novel conclusions, forms perhaps one of the most interesting inquiries, connected with the history of intellectual improvement. With Dr. Priestley we believe, that the first perception of new principles is often accidental, and excited during the investigation of some collateral branch of science; it depends, rather, on their connection with some familiar train of reasoning, than on the intuitive efforts of acute and original minds, independent of active exertion. Dr. Black, however, forms an illustrious exception to this observation. If we examine his doctrine of latent heat, we shall find, that, from his first induction to the study of chemistry, he was sensible of the deficiency of the prevailing theory in the explanation of its phenomena. The path, which he pursued, was entirely new; it was developed by

the efforts of his sagacious mind, and by the application of those instruments, with which the genius of true philosophy had made him acquainted. Since his period, however, the science of chemistry has assumed a new and more determined character; hence if the student expects to find, in these lectures, a collection of all the facts, which are at present known on the subject, he will be disappointed. The interest, which they excite, results from the strength of reasoning and accuracy of his inductions from known facts, and the apparent ease, with which he deduces novel principles. Dr. Black lived sufficiently long to appreciate the discoveries of the pneumatick chemists. For a long period, it had been his duty, as professor, to explain to his pupils the doctrine of Stahl, and he had been accustomed to believe, that it was founded on the laws of nature; but on a fair view of the principles of the new school, he acknowledged their truth, and, with the candour usually attached to great minds, abjured those hypotheses, which time and the habit of teaching had led him to think immutable. This was the triumph of principle, and the pneumatick theory was soon established, when supported by the ablest and most celebrated chemist in Europe. As Dr. Black probably never contemplated the publication of his lectures, they were left at his death in a very loose and imperfect state. To the labours of professor Robison are we indebted for the regular and connected series, in which they have issued from the press. They are rendered more valuable by the addition of notes by the learned editor; in these, and in the last part of the work itself, the student will find the principles of pneumatick chem-

istry admitted with the caution of true philosophy. We cannot therefore recommend too strongly these lectures, both to the student of chemistry and to the general scholar. They will afford useful and general information on the chemical arts to the latter, and serve as an introduction to modern chemistry to the former. We are much pleased with the execution of the work, and on comparing it with the Edinburgh edition, we have much reason to be satisfied with the American printer. It is a very favourable specimen of American typography.

ART. 49.

An Analytical Guide to the Art of Penmanship, collected and arranged by Henry Dean, of Salem, Massachusetts. Salem. 1806.

'THE author, having for a considerable time past devoted his whole attention to the subject of penmanship, now offers the result of his experience to the publick. It has been his view in the present publication to introduce a method of instruction, which will not only lessen the labour, but will also shorten the period of time usually required for attaining the art of writing. The leading principles are to reduce the letters of the alphabet to as few elements as possible, consistently with their practical application, and to conduct the pupils by regular but steady advances from the simplest elements to the most complex ornaments of penmanship.' *Intro.*

As the art of penmanship must at all times constitute a branch of early education, much will be due to those, who, by their method of teaching it, encourage the learner by rapid improvement. Such improvement is best insured by preserving pupils from early errors, which are seldom corrected afterward. For this purpose Mr. D.

conducts the learner to the large text, as best calculated to detect disproportions, and give command of hand. A long attention, devoted to successful practice and instruction of penmanship, confer on him an undoubted right to be heard on this subject, when he affirms,

'That portion of his work, to which, from its novelty, the most objections will probably be made, is a part which he considers of the utmost importance, that is, the *large text*, a specimen of which is seen in page 50. He can however say, and confidently, that if any one part of the plan is, more than the rest, peculiarly promotive of the scholar's improvement, this is that part. He is convinced, from the most decisive experience, that nothing has a stronger tendency to give that ease and command of hand, which afford us so much pleasure in the productions of an accomplished penman, than practising this large hand.' *Intro.*

Of trivial accomplishments, no one is of greater utility than penmanship; for a pleasing execution of this art can engage the attention and confer due importance on the subject. A fair copy of nonsense will lead the eye to the conclusion, while an ingenious treatise is degraded in a slovenly manuscript. The account books of the merchant are more frequently approved from the beauty of the figures, than from the correctness of the trial balance; and the validity of an official paper is much established by the execution of the penmanship. The habit of writing clearly and neatly is therefore well worth the attention of the scholar, unwilling to degrade his productions by rendering them fashionably illegible. We cannot but think this work possesses higher claims to publick attention, than any hitherto published in our country on the subject; as added to the author's own ex-

perience, he confesses to have availed himself of the most splendid works, published with a view of illustrating the 'diplomatick art.' The rules of distance and proportion are as concise, as the nature of the alphabet admits, and are exemplified by specimens handsomely and accurately engraved. Mr. D. has also rendered his work valuable by much curious historical information of the origin and progress of writing and printing, and of the several claims of the ancients to the invention of these invaluable arts. The work is written in an agreeable style, and is worth the perusal of those, whose long habits of scrawling render a recurrence to the first principles of penmanship tedious, if not impossible.

We regret that Mr. D. has not furnished a chapter on the line of beauty; the right conception, and ready execution of which, is the last perfection acquired by the finished penman. He has so well exemplified it in his specimens of the several hands, that we are persuaded he is adequate to its explanation; and although it may not be susceptible of geometrical demonstration, (as every different text requires a different and peculiar line of beauty) yet the learner may be much assisted by some general directions. This line is of so great importance in every branch of penmanship, that unequal distances or thicknesses are scarcely noticed where it is preserved, and on its preservation through the page (especially in all capital letters) depends the beauty of the whole. The just delineation of this line is the first principle of ornamental flourishing; and although this branch of chirography may be justly confined to writing masters, whose profession renders it neces-

sary and lucrative, yet its principles are considered well worth the attention of every penman, especially as this art has arrived to an astonishing degree of perfection, and encroached upon the art of painting in a degree, to snatch some beauties beyond the reach of the pencil or the graver; as the reiterated touches of the former, and the slow progress of the latter, cannot exhibit the light, easy, and free delineations of the pen in a skilful hand. We hope Mr. Dean will be soon enabled, by a rapid sale of the first edition, to add some directions to the second, that may facilitate the right conception and ready execution of a line, so important in every branch of chirography.

ART. 50.

The Voice of Truth, or thoughts on the affair between the Leopard and the Chesapeake, in a letter from a gentleman at New-York to his friend. New-York, printed for J. Osborne.

It is to be regretted, that so able a writer, upon a topick of so much interest and delicacy, should have indulged himself in language so intemperate, and expressions so unmeasured as many which are to be found in this pamphlet. There are so many marks of a wounded and irritated mind, that we are constrained to believe, that the writer is an Englishman. There are too many traits of national feeling, and too great asperity against both parties in America, to permit us to believe, that the author is a native of this country.

However wrong a citizen may deem the policy or measures of his own country, his filial, patriotic piety forbids him to withdraw her habiliments, and expose her

weaknesses and defects to an inquisitive and censorious world. If the object of this pamphlet was simply to lash and censure the federalists, without aiming at any ulterior good effect, it is for *that* reason to be condemned. Satire is only justifiable when it aims at the correction and amendment of the person against whom it is directed, or to warn others who may be exposed to the same errors or vices. If the intent of the writer was to convince the federalists of their past errors, and to engage them to avoid falling into the like snare in future, we must confess, we think, that he has managed the subject with very little knowledge of human nature. Where the moralist has the power to *punish*, instead of persuading, it may be well enough to display all the enormities of the offence, in order to justify the rigour and severity of the chastisement; but where his only office is to allure to duty by persuasion and reasoning, where the address is made to men who have pride, sensibility, reputation, and resentment, it is extremely injudicious to commence the work of reform by telling them, that they have blasted their reputations, that they have violated all their own principles, that they have forfeited all claim to publick respect. This is no approved road to men's attention and confidence. No orator of antiquity, or of modern days, ever adopted this method of gaining the hearts of his audience.

As to the general merits of the pamphlet, there are undoubtedly many truths in it deserving most serious attention; but unhappily they are so decked with foreign prejudices, they are so blended with the national feelings of an Englishman, that they lose much of their effect upon the publick

mind, at a moment of so much sensibility.

It is indeed exceedingly to be regretted, that the federalists suffered themselves so readily to fall into the errors which they have so often condemned in their opponents, of appealing to the publick passions, and of inflaming, instead of endeavouring to appease them.

It is also to be lamented, that the sensibility excited by an unexpected outrage on one of our publick ships, should have so far made us forget the *respect due to ourselves*, as to adopt language which, in cooler moments, we have had so much occasion to blush at.

To brand an inferiour officer with cowardice, and even murder, to wish him a *halter* as a reward, when *we knew* that he acted under the written orders of his superiour, is such a violation of decency and good sense, that one would wish to expunge it from the journals of the day.

It must be admitted also, that it was extremely injudicious to give such unqualified opinions on an important transaction, without any suitable knowledge of the facts, especially too when we knew the prejudiced channel through which our information was derived; when we knew that nothing would gratify *certain men* in our country more than to embroil us with Great-Britain; and when it was certainly *possible* that they might have fomented and provoked this *very affair*, solely with a view to widen a breach, which all their conduct for twenty years had been directed to make and increase.

But still we repeat it, that we do not think, that the pamphlet in question is calculated to display this subject in so clear, calm, and dispassionate a manner, as to promise any good effects to the cause

of virtue, good order, and correct principles.

ART. 51.

Papers, consisting of communications made to the Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture. Published by the Trustees of the Society. Boston, printed for Young & Minns, printers to the state, by Greenough & Stebbins. 1806. 8vo ffs. 90.

'SINCE the last publication of the trustees,' say they in the preface, 'a munificent provision has been made for the establishment of a professorship of natural history, and a botanick garden, at the university in Cambridge. The trustees of the Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture constitute a major part of the visitors of this institution.' They hope to be able to discharge this part of their trust in such a manner, as to promote the interests of agriculture, as well as of other arts, connected with the science of nature.' We have no doubt that they will. This ninth number of their papers contains a letter on the culture of potatoes, by Hon. T. Pickering; account of the Millward family; account of the Egyptian millet, by N. Adams; letter on the same subject, by R. Webster; on planting osiers and willows; on boiling potatoes; on the agriculture of the Netherlands; on the propriety of bruising oats for horses; on the use of parsley as food for horses and cattle; food of plants; cider press improved; experiment shewing the importance of selecting the first ripe seeds, by Rev. J. Freeman; on the management of the dairy; account of the manner of making cheese in England; communication on the same subject;

on the management of pigs. More than one third of these papers are original and useful communications, and the selections from other publications are judiciously made.

ART. 52.

Two sermons, on quitting the old, and entering the new meeting-house, in the first parish in Newbury. By John Snelling Postkin, A.M. Newburyport, W. & J. Gilman, printers, for A. March. 8vo. ffs. 71. 1806.

WITH the same kind of pleasure that we observe the meanderings of a deep and gentle stream, do we look into the pages of a clear, strong, and unobstructed mind. Such is the sort of mind, which we believe the author of these sermons to possess. His manner of thinking and writing is somewhat peculiar; yet his peculiarity is not offensive. He seems determined to choose his own words, and to place them in his own order, even though he should differ from polished writers; yet the generality of polished readers will be satisfied with his taste. The texts, which he has chosen to affix to the sermons, are such as none, perhaps, except himself, would have selected; yet that person must be deficient in understanding and sensibility, who does not perceive their aptitude to the subject, and that of the subject to the occasion. In the first of these sermons, from Ps. xc. 1. our author follows a series of reasoning on the excellence of religion, by a copious and minute history of the first church in Newbury, and by a luminous and pathetick appeal to the heads and hearts of his hearers. He seriously and tenderly recals to their imaginations the 'venerable forms and fabricks of antiquity;'

and pleasantly retraces the 'strong character, the firm principles, and the pious spirit' of the fathers of New-England. In the second, founded on Luke. ii. 14. he charmingly illustrates the benevolence and beauty, the purity and usefulness, the 'design and the effect' of the christian dispensation. Although he seems rather desirous of 'awakening fervent feelings and devout sentiments, than of filling his discourse with cool reasonings and exact speculations,' his words are, however, as happily suited to enlighten the conscience, as to warm the affections. He seizes and uses all the advantages of the occasion for purposes of instruction, and suffers neither circumstance nor appendage to pass unnoticed. Many of his remarks are unexpected, yet natural; and if, in some instances, they border on the abrupt, they have every mark of partaking largely of the heart, and accordingly convey conviction and delight to the hearts of others. The author's notes, contained in the appendix, are written with the utmost freedom, and are extremely entertaining; they display more of history and character in a very few pages, than is sometimes to be found in as many volumes. We close our notice of these valuable sermons with the remarks, which finish the appendix:

'An obvious remark must make the conclusion. The history of mankind, of a nation, of a town, a parish, or any other society, I had almost said, of an individual, is a history of changes, troubles, contentions, and revolutions. For this, two reasons may be given. The first is, that "this is the state of man." The other is, that while persons or societies proceed in the still and even tenor of duty and felicity, history can only say, it is well, they do well, and reap the fruits of well-doing. The objects, which meet the eyes of

the remote observer, are deviations, commotions, and uncommon facts, which do not often appear in a course of tranquil duty. If Adam and his posterity had remained in a state of innocence, they might have had hymns and discourses of piety and virtue; but they would probably have had few and short histories; genealogies of good men, drawn from father to son along the same path of righteousness and peace; without violence, without intrigues, without efforts against the selfish, the rash, and the artful; without any of those events, which furnish the annals of the world.

Mr. Toppan continued a long ministry without much variation. In all this time he was labouring diligently to teach and exhort his people, and heal their bodies and their minds; and they were receiving the benefit and satisfaction. But this is all said in a few words. Dr. Tucker in the first half of his ministry suffered much tribulation, and of this we have some accounts. But, if we wish to know, what he was doing through the long peace of his latter days, we must go to his works, that are extant; and to his surviving friends, who will tell us in a word, that they esteemed him very highly in love for his work's sake, and that he was an example of what he taught.

Yet it may be useful, to recover what remains of the times that are past, and which is rapidly departing from memory; it may be gratifying to those, who are in any degree connected, or interested in these subjects; and it may lead us to consider the ways of Providence, and the ways of mankind, and from all to derive some improvement. Mankind are the actors, and may be studied in the smaller affairs of a parish, as well as in the greater transactions of an empire. One reflection, at least, let us make and retain, when we search into the records of the dead; that we shall soon be numbered with them, and perhaps be subjects of future inquiries. May we so live, that our memories may be blessed by future generations. And, O Lord of mercy, may we be held in thine everlasting and gracious remembrance, through the redemption which is in Jesus Christ.'

ART. 39.

Masonic and social address, as pronounced, &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. at the laying the corner stone of St. John's episcopal church, in angle form, (where?) on the 24th of June, A. L. 5807. By the Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of New-Hampshire. Printed by William Treadwell, Portsmouth, N. H.

AND have we lived, kind readers, to behold sublimity itself so far out-sublimated?—Longinus awake! spirit of Burke arouse, and animate once more the mortal frame now mouldering in the cemetery's cold mansions! We call you to no 'fancied, fictitious scene;' 'tis all reality, 'reality indeed'!! We bid your venerable manes 'turn the retrospective eye' to that eventful day, the twenty-fourth of June, last past, when at the laying of the corner stone of St. John's church, somewhere within the limits, if to us conjecture may be lawful, of our sister state New-Hampshire, the venerable chaplain of said state's Grand Lodge towered, 'towered sublime, within the compass of an oblong square, enkindling raptures in the mason's soul.—But ah! these times are past, forever past! That festal morn, that solemn noon hath ceased,' &c. &c. &c.

Most patient 'gentlemen subscribers,' 'accept, we entreat you,' some slight specimens of the truly wonderful literary performance on that occasion, with our 'most respectful felicitations, combined with those of the whole fraternity' of critics throughout the United States, and every where else, in having it in our power to quote from it a few passages unutterably 'magnificent,' and sublime beyond rivalship. The 'elegant and in-

genious address' opens thus brilliantly:

'And is the Grand Lodge of New-Hampshire assembled on 'the brow of the hill' where the cassia blooms over the graves of 'the faithful and true?' And are we convened on the right and the left of those tombs, where the worthy and good repose in the silence of death?' P. 9.

Referring to the burning of St. John's church, in Portsmouth, which, to speak vulgarly, took fire at the steeple, he rapturously breaks forth:

'Behold! that little, trembling, almost dying spark! Ah see it light on yon tall spire! and gathering strength from every breath of air; and tenfold energy from passive weaknesses of wood, O see! how swift the fell destroyer runs adown its sides! How rapidly he shoots along the kindling roof! How soon he wraps the dome within his blazing arms! infolds it to his glowing breast! and sinks beneath the opening gulf, that yawns below! while instant ruin sits enthroned on heaps of living coals! and ruthless desolation waves her sceptre, round a gloomy, horrid void!' P. 11.

Apostrophe to fire:

'Then why, thou tyrant of a day! thou despot of an hour! O, why repeat the vain attempt? Why clothe thy fiery studs in living flames anew? Why speed thy glowing chariot round this hill the second time?' P. 12.

A new method of extinguishing fire!

'And charity alone can quench the fiery flame in balmey oil.'

Water has hitherto been made use of for this purpose: 'but the present is an age of discovery;' and the *oil of charity* may differ in its nature from all the other *oils* with which we are acquainted. The author of this 'elegant and ingenious address,' has however made another discovery, which it is our opinion may be turned to as

good account as the other ; viz. that any quantity of blank verse may be converted into a like quantity of prose, without suffering materially by the commutation, only by cutting down the initials of each line, and by filling out the width of a page, without paying any attention to the verse and measure ; and the profit, according to the nicest calculation, will ever be in direct ratio to the flimsiness of the poetry. We regret extremely that the 'Grand Chaplain' had so

small a stock of this poetry on hand at the time of composing this address, since he has been under the necessity of introducing into it too great variety of style. This might have been owing partly to the limited period allowed him to prepare it : if so, we trust the next edition will be much improved in this particular. We should hope likewise to see ten or twelve pages of additional notes, 'historical and masonick,' and the title-page more *circumstantial*.

CATALOGUE
OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES,
For AUGUST, 1807.

Sunt bona, sunt quedam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

Reports of cases argued and determined in the supreme judicial court of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, during the year 1806. By Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq. counsellour at law. Newburyport, E. M. Blunt. 8vo. pp. 268.

Lectures on the Jewish Antiquities. By David Tappan, D.D. late Hollis professor of divinity in the university at Cambridge. 1 vol. 8vo pp. 364. W. Hilliard, and Lincoln & Edmands.

Sermons on important subjects. By David Tappan, D.D. late Hollis professor of divinity in the university at Cambridge. To which is prefixed, memoirs of the life and character of Dr. Tappan, and Dr. Holmes' Discourse at his funeral. 1 vol. 8vo pp. 390. W. Hilliard and Lincoln & Edmands.

Pieces of Irish history, illustrative of the condition of the catholics of Ireland, of the origin and progress of the political system of the United Irishmen, and of their transactions with the Anglo Irish government. By William James Mac Neven, and Thomas Addis Emmett. New-York, Bernard Dornin. 8vo. \$2 in boards.

The Parnassian Pilgrim, or the posthumous works of the late Mr. William Lake, with a sketch of his life. Hudson, H. Crosswel. 12mo. pp. 184.

A Philosophical Grammar of the English Language. By Noah Webster,

esq. New-Haven, O. Steele & Co. for Brisban and Brannan, New-York.

An Essay towards an exposition of the futility of Thomas Paine's Objections to the Christian religion, being a reply to a late pamphlet written by him, entitled, 'Examination of the passages in the New Testament, quoted from the Old, and called Prophecies concerning Jesus Christ,' &c. By John B. Colvin. 8vo. Baltimore.

The Female Enthusiast, a tragedy, in five acts. By a Lady. Charleston, S. C. printed for the author, by J. Hoff. 12mo. pp. 51. 1807.

An illustration of some difficult passages of scripture on the doctrine of absolute predestination ; attempted in a sermon, by William Woodbridge, A.M. Middletown, J. & B. Dunning. 1805.

The Decrees vindicated, or reconciled with free agency and accountability. By John W. Smith. Poughkeepsie, Nelson & Son.

The Voice of Truth, or thoughts on the affair between the Leopard and Chesapeake. In a letter from a gentleman at New-York to his friend. New-York, J. Osborn. 8vo. pp. 50.

Sentiments on Resignation, by Rosewell Messenger, pastor of the first church in York, Maine. Portsmouth, William Treadwell 1807.

A Journal kept at Nootka Sound, during a captivity of twenty-eight months.

By John R. Jewett, one of the surviving crew of the ship *Boston*, of Boston, John Salter, commander, who was massacred on the 22d March, 1803. Interspersed with some account of the natives, their manners, and customs. Boston, Belcher & Armstrong, for the author. 12mo. pp. 48.

An Oration, delivered at Northampton, July 4th, 1807, on the anniversary celebration of American Independence. By Jonathan H. Lyman. Northampton, T. M. Pomroy.

An Oration, delivered at Salisbury, N.H. July 4, 1807. By Ezekiel Webster. Concord, George Hough.

An Oration, pronounced at Groton, in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the Fourth of July, A. D. 1807, in commemoration of the Independence of the United States of America, before the Republican Citizens of the town of Groton and the vicinity; but principally the inhabitants of the towns of Chelmsford, Dunstable, Littleton, Lunenburg, Westford, Harvard, Townsend, Shirley, Pepperell, Ashby, and Boxborough. By Samuel Dana. *Olim, hec meminisse juvabit.* 8vo. Amherst, N.H. Joseph Cushing.

A Discourse, delivered at the funeral of Mrs. Mary Woodward, consort of the late Hon. Professor Woodward, in the meeting-house near Dartmouth college, March 29, 1807. By Roswell Shurtleff, A.M. professor of divinity in Dartmouth college. Hanover, Moses Davis.

An Address, prepared to be delivered before the free and accepted Masons, in the city of New-York, on the 34th June, 1807, being the feast of St. John the Baptist. By Rev. Samuel A. Peters, Bishop elect of Vermont. New York, S. Gould.

A Discourse, delivered in the first church, Boston, on the anniversary of the Massachusetts Humane Society, June 9, 1807. By Rev. William Emerson, pastor of the first church in Boston. Boston, Munroe & Francis. 8vo. pp. 40.

A Sermon preached in Putney, Vt. June 15, 1807, at the ordination of Rev. Elisha D. Andrews, over the congregational church and charitable christian society in that town. By Joseph Lathrop, D.D. pastor of the church in West-Springfield. Brattleborough, William Fessenden.

A Sermon preached at the ordination of the Rev. David Thurston, over the

church of Christ in Winthrop, Maine, Feb. 19, 1807. By Elijah Parish, A.M. Augusta, Peter Edes.

A Sermon, occasioned by the death of Capt. Cyrus Bullard, and preached at Medway, May 25, 1806. By Luther Wright, A.M. pastor of the first church in Medway. Dedham, H. Mann.

The Thistle, an original work, containing a great many good things. By Roderick Rover, esq. and others. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

NEW EDITIONS.

Burlamaqui on Natural and Politick Law. 2 vols. 8vo. Fifth edition, corrected. Cambridge, William Hilliard.

European Commerce, shewing new and secure channels of trade with the continent of Europe. By J. Jepsen Oddy. Two volumes large octavo; published by J. Humphreys, Philadelphia.

Part 2d of Peake's Law of Evidence, containing the proofs required in those actions which most ordinarily occur in nisi prius. Philadelphia, P. Bryne.

Essays, moral, economical, and political. By Francis Bacon, baron of Verulam, viscount St. Albans, and lord high chancellor of England. First American edition. Boston, Joseph Greenleaf.

Miseries of Human Life, 2d American edition. New-York, E. Duyckinck and P. A. Mesier. \$1 in boards.

Devout Meditations, or a collection of thoughts on religious and philosophical subjects. By Charles How, Esq. First American edition. New-York, Samuel Wood. 12mo. pp. 190. 1807.

The Mourning Husband, a Discourse at the funeral of Mrs. Thankful Church, late consort of Rev. John H. Church, pastor of the church in Pelham, N.H. April 15, 1806. By Leonard Woods, pastor of a church in Newbury. Second edition. Boston, Lincoln & Edmands.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

The Beauties of Sterne, including many of his letters and sermons, all his pathetic tales, humorous descriptions, and most distinguished observations on life. Boston, Andrews & Cummings.

Mrs. Rowson's Spelling Dictionary. Boston, J. West. 12mo.

The Life of George Washington, commander in chief of the armies of the

United States of America, throughout the war which established their independence, and first president of the United States. By David Ramsay, M. D., author of *The History of the American Revolution*. 1 vol. 8vo. pp. 400. Ornamented with an engrayed Head of Washington. Price to subscribers, in boards, \$2.50. Providence, Rhode-Island, E. S. Thomas.

The second edition of President Webber's *Mathematical Text Book*. Cambridge, William Hilliard.

A new novel entitled, *Ira and Isabella*, said to be the production of the late Mr. William Brown, of this town, author of *West-Point preserved*, &c. 12mo. Boston, Belcher & Armstrong.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

The Natural and Civil History of Vermont, by Samuel Williams, LL. D. The first volume of this work was published in the year 1794: it is now offered in an improved and enlarged form, in two volumes octavo, each containing about 500 pages; to be handsomely printed, and to contain a new and accurate map of the state, and an elegant portrait of the author. It is meant that the whole shall be executed in a superior style of correctness and elegance. The price of the two volumes, handsomely bound, to be \$4.50. Burlington, Vermont, Samuel Mills.

Adams's Roman Antiquities, 1 large 8vo. vol. 640 pages, \$3. To be published in the fall, by Mathew Carey, Philadelphia.

Munroe & Francis intend to add another volume to their edition of Shake-

peare's *Dramatic Works*, which will be the ninth volume, and contain all SHAKESPEARE'S *Forms and the Critical Essays of Professor Richardson*. It will be printed to conform with their first edition, so that gentlemen desirous of adding it to that edition may be accommodated.

Proposals have been issued for publishing, at Albany, by subscription, a volume, entitled, '*Horror of Slavery, or the American Tars in Tripoli*,' containing an account of the loss and capture of the United States frigate *Philadelphia*; treatment and sufferings of the prisoners; description of the place; manners of the Turks, &c. &c. By William Ray. 12mo. pp. 200. \$1.

The American Artillerist's Companion. To be printed by subscription, and offered to the patronage of the Federal government, the people of the United States, and to the artillerists of the army, navy, and militia. By Lewis Tossard. To be printed on good paper and nice type, and contain upwards of 600 pages, so as to form one or two volumes octavo, as shall be most convenient to the subscribers; the whole will be illustrated by upwards of thirty-six plates. The work will be published in five numbers, of from 120 to 150 pages each, accompanied with six or seven plates; the price two dollars per number, to be paid on delivery. Philadelphia, C. & A. Conrad and Co. Subscriptions received at the Boston bookstore.

The Poems of R. T. Paine, jun. In one volume 12mo 300 pages. Boston, Belcher & Armstrong. \$1.50 to sub-

INTELLIGENCE.

LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Pinkerton, whose celebrity as a geographer stands at present unrivalled, has undertaken to edit a work of considerable magnitude, nearly connected with the subject of his late publication, a *General Collection of Voyages and Travels*, forming a complete history of the origin and progress of discovery by sea and land from the earliest ages to the present time. The narratives of the traveller and the navigator have ever been found to hold

out the highest attractions to every class and description of readers. The eagerness with which works of this description have been sought, has led at different periods to the compilation of collections in some measure resembling that which is now under our consideration. A bare enumeration of the principal of these would form an extensive catalogue. The first was published by Grynæus, at Basel, in the early part of the 16th century,

Since that time many of real importance have appeared, and some of them have applied to the character of general histories of this department of literature. The French *Histoire Generale des Voyages*, by the Abbé Prevost, is well known, and its merit universally acknowledged. But this, it ought to be observed, is little more than a translation of the general collection of voyages and travels published in London in 1743, by Thomas Astley. The Abbé Prevost added some matter to it, and improved the arrangement of the original materials. His work extended to sixteen quarto volumes, the first of which was published at Paris, 1746. La Harpe afterwards attempted a popular abridgment of this work, but did not succeed in making his labours as useful as his subject might have enabled him. Many other similar collections have appeared in Germany and in Spain, as well as in France and Great-Britain; but it may be observed of all of them, without any exception, that though frequently rich in materials, they have been lamentably defective in the arrangement, and too indiscriminate in their choice and selection of documents. The pleasure of perusal has been by such means greatly impaired; and the trouble of wading through such masses of incongruous matter has rendered the advantages of the information contained in them in many instances not worth the labour and fatigue of the attainment. In the new work which we have now the pleasure to announce as in preparation, every exertion of industry and taste will, we are assured, be employed to combine all the advantages of amusement and utility which can be united in any one publication on the subject. It is not intended merely to reprint the narratives which have already appeared, nor to adhere to the strict chronological order of the occurrences which they detail; but in most cases to class the subjects and consolidate the materials of different writers, so as to exhibit at one view all that is interesting or im-

portant in their several publications, and to present the reader with a regular, succinct, and separate history of the progress of discovery in every great division of the globe. It is proposed, however, that the utmost care shall be taken not to destroy or weaken the interest which in a greater or less degree must always belong to the narrative of the voyager himself, by using, where it can be done with advantage, the language of the original authority. The first in the order of the divisions of this work, as most interesting to the great body of readers, will be Europe, comprising every thing valuable that has ever appeared in the form of voyages or travels relating to this portion of the earth; and, in the subsequent parts, the order of arrangement which Mr. Pinkerton has pursued in his great geographical work will be adopted. It is calculated that the work will be completed in ten or twelve volumes in quarto, which will be embellished with well executed prints, and a few of such maps and plans as may be desirable to supply the reader with an immediate view of the places under his consideration. Such is in general the plan of this work, and it must be confessed that the execution of it could not have been entrusted to an editor better qualified for the undertaking. There are few works of consequence connected with the subject which Mr. Pinkerton must not already, from the extent of his geographical inquiries, have had occasion to consult, or of which he must not have learned the character and the value. The libraries of this kingdom he has carefully explored; and it is known, that during the late interval of peace, he carefully examined the libraries of Paris, with the view of adding every attainable information to the new edition of his geography, which has since appeared. With such qualifications, supported by indefatigable literary industry, we may expect from his hands a work of the most instructive and amusing description.

The Clarendon press is now em-

ployed in printing Wyttenbach's Notes on Plutarch's Morals, in 4to. and 8vo.; an edition of Sophocles in Greek, with notes by Elmsley; the Clergyman's Instructor, being a kind of sequel to the Clergyman's Assistant; new editions of Davis's Cicero De Natura Deorum; Musgrave's Euripides; Florus's, Homer's Iliad and Odyssey; Bishop Butler's Works, in two volumes octavo; and Shuckford's Connection.

The new edition of Pope's Works, by the Rev. W. Lisle Bowles, will be published in a few weeks. This edition is not only enlarged by a series of notes and illustrations by the editor and other learned friends, but by a volume of Letters between Pope and his Correspondents, never before published, and which have been supplied from the library of a Noble Marquis. There are also a considerable number of portraits, not hitherto engraven, of Pope's illustrious friends, which will form a valuable addition to the English Series. The whole is comprised in ten volumes octavo, with an additional volume in 4to. and another in 8vo. to suit Ruffhead's and Warton's editions.

We understand that a work of considerable importance, and aiming at nothing less than a total change in the study and practice of Eloquence, is now preparing for the press. It traces the revolutions of Oratory, and the causes of its progress or decline in different countries, with a view of making the collected evidence of past times the test of the proposed plan of academical improvement. The theory is certainly plausible, and is illustrated by a great variety of the most admired specimens of popular, parliamentary, and judicial eloquence. It is to be entitled *THE BRITISH CICERO*, and we hope it may be found worthy of its title and its attempt.

Mr. William Spence, F. L. S. has in the press a work entitled, "*Britain Independent of Commerce.*" The object of this publication is to show, in opposition to the commonly received doctrines, that this nation does not gain any accession of riches from her trade; that her wealth, her prosperity, and her power are wholly derived from resources inherent in herself: and consequently that we have no reason to be alarmed, although our enemies should succeed in their attempts to exclude us

from commerce with every part of the globe.

The following account of a conversation between Napoleon and Dr. Erhard, rector of the University of Leipzig, has been published in the German Gazette. "I had imagined (says the Doctor) that Napoleon, surrounded by his generals, would give us a cold reception, and after a few words would dismiss us. I was much mistaken, though apprized by some persons who knew him that he hated complaints, I had, however, prepared something flattering by way of address. Conducted by an Adjutant, we entered his chamber, where he was alone. He approached us with a tranquil air, and informed himself who we were: the manner in which he asked this question instantly dissipated our fears of a humiliating treatment. On presenting to him M. Prasse, professor extraordinary of mathematicks at Leipzig, I added that he was one of the best pupils of professor Kindeburg. The Emperor immediately entered upon the nature and advantages of Kindeburg's mode of calculation, and appeared much pleased with the manner in which M. Prasse spoke of it, and the freedom with which he answered some of his objections. His Majesty then addressing himself to me, observed, that our University enjoyed the honour of having produced the immortal Leibnitz, of whom he spoke with a warmth, which shewed that he placed him above Newton. He proceeded, "Does Kant's philosophy reign also at your University?" "Sire, I replied, we have never granted an exclusive privilege to any sect of philosophy. "But Kant is already out of fashion, who is predominant at present?" He has had several successors who have tried to supplant him; and perhaps the newest system, or the newest phraseology, is on the point of falling. As to us, we conceive, that it is our duty to form young men for the service of humanity and the state, rather than to make them dreamers and simpletons. A sublime mind rises

to speculation of itself, and not by poring over the systems of professors, who wish to make themselves remarkable. All our efforts are directed against the tyranny of the sectarian spirit. "In this you are very right, (replied the Emperor) and I am of the same opinion." He then spoke of Gall, and made some very just and acute remarks on his system. "I question," said he, "whether nature, in her works, operates so rudely that Gall can be able to penetrate her intentions. I have not been satisfied with his explanations relative to the motion of the brain. I esteem the spirit of observation, but I am no friend to ambulatory courses of lectures, which are incompatible with the dignity of science." The Emperor then asked me particulars concerning the foundation of our university. He praised the Elector for converting monasteries into scientific institutions; and warmly recommended to us the care of such institutions, which often produce great men. He was astonished at the great number of the German universities, and the smallness of their resources. "I love (said he) grand establishments, which at the same time are grand in their effects." He highly extolled those of Paris, Bologna, and Milan, where (according to his expression) the Muses inhabit palaces, into which we enter with emotions of respect. "Governments (said he) ought publicly to testify their esteem for the sciences, in order to render them respectable to the people." When I observed that the number of students had been diminished during the war, he answered, "They have been frightened, we must restore their confidence."

The Rev. Mr. Collinson has in the press, a *Life of the Historian Thuanus*, which will be comprised in one volume, octavo. From the distinguished rank which Thuanus held among the literary men of his age, this work promises to prove highly interesting.

Mr. Coleridge has in the press, two new volumes of *Poems*, which will speedily be published.

Dr. Playfair, the learned Principal of St. Andrew's, has recently put to press an elaborate work on *Ancient and Modern Geography*, on which he has been engaged for upwards of twenty years. It is to be published by subscription. It is calculated that it will form six volumes in quarto, which will appear in regular succession as soon as they are severally printed. The first volume will contain a *History of Geography*, an account of the physical conformation of the Earth, with other matters introductory to the general subject of the work; a general description of Europe, followed by more succinct and copious descriptions of ancient and modern Spain and Portugal, ancient and modern France, and the Netherlands and United Provinces. The whole is to be illustrated by a copious series of well-engraved maps. Our readers will readily acknowledge, that a work of this nature is a real desideratum in science, and, from the well-known industry and talents of the author, will, we doubt not, with ourselves, regard the present publication as a valuable addition to the literature of the country. From the peculiarity of its arrangements, it is not likely to interfere with Mr. Pinkerton's excellent work on *Modern Geography*, but may rather be considered as adding to its worth by contributing, when united with it, to form the most complete body of Geographical Knowledge, ancient and modern, ever given to the publick.

The Botanical Garden at Leyden occupies about four acres of land, and is kept in excellent order. The Botanical Gardens of Upsal and of the Dublin Society are described as greatly superiour in value and arrangement to this of Leyden. Amongst the plants are the remains of vegetable antiquity, in the shape of a palm, which stands in a tub in the open air, supported by a thin frame of iron work; it is about fourteen feet high, and was raised from seed by the celebrated Carolus Clusius, who died professor at Leyden in 1609. This plant is said to be the

palm mentioned by Linnaeus in his *Prolectiones in Ordines Naturales Plantarum*, published by Giseke, in 1792, at Hamburgh, which Linnaeus suspected to be a *Chamerops*, but which as Dr. Smith, observes his editor, rightly refers to the *Raphis flabelliformis*. It comes from China and Japan; and there is a tree of this kind, and about as large, in the Botanick Garden at Paris, and another at Pisa. In this garden is also the Ginkgo of the Chinese, a standard twenty feet high; *Strelitzia Regina*, which has never yet flowered in any garden out of England; the *Olea Laurifolia*, a new species, according to Van Royen; *Royena lucida*, in flower, as large as a moderate hawthorn tree, and thought to be very handsome; and a singular plant from the Cape, supposed to be an *Echites*, with a large tubercous root raised high above the surface of the ground, two or three weak stems a foot high, and large dark-brown flowers. In the University Library, is Rauwolf's Herbarium, which is very magnificent, and the plants well preserved; also Boccone's Herbarium of the Plants described in his *Fasciculos Plantarum*, published by Morison at Oxford, in 1674. These specimens are very poor. Herman's Collection of Ceylon Plants is also here, and a volume of Westindia Plants, belonging to Herman, which are very scarce in Holland.

Holland still possesses several artists, who maintain the glory of the ancient Dutch school. M. BUCH, director of the academy of design at Amsterdam, is estimated to be a good historical painter. The pictures of flowers and sea pieces by DE VANOS, are spoken of with great praise. The landscapes of HAAG, and the animals of SHOUWMAN, are much esteemed. KRISSE has exercised his pencil with success in allegorical pieces, and FORTMAN has given specimens of distinguished talents in engraving Kuiper's two pictures of Peace and War. VINCLES and HODGES have long enjoyed the reputation of skilful engravers. SCREVEG-

MAN has obtained a prize given by the National Economical Society, for a new invention of engraving in imitation of chalk, and the Society of Haerlem has bestowed another on HORSTOCK, a painter of Altmær, who has a method of rendering water-colours more durable.

Dr. Miller, Lecturer on Chemistry, at Edinburgh, has undertaken to prepare for the press, a new edition, in two volumes octavo, of *Williams's Mineral Kingdom*. He proposes carefully to revise the original, to expunge all extraneous matter, to correct and polish the style, and to add the valuable discoveries that have been made in the science of mineralogy, since the publication of that Work. Dr. Miller has made an actual survey of the principal mines of the kingdom and may be supposed well qualified to execute this undertaking in a scientific manner.

Mr. Mémère has published a history of the principal Insurrections which have happened among the Students at the different Universities of Europe.

The university of Coimbra, in Portugal, has been enriched by the acquisition of the large library of M. HANSE, at Lisbon. The scarce books and MSS. in that library amount to 12,000 vols.

EDITORS' NOTES.

We have received a communication, signed Quastor, and duly considered it. The author proposes a mode of increasing the utility of the *Art's* obogy, which may be easy; and he deserves our thanks for his interest in our labours: but the interrogatories he offers seem to us less proper subjects for our publication, than a political or statistick review.

In the review of the *Cambridge Horace*, in our last Number, a slight error escaped us. The Dr. Douglas, who so carefully enumerated the editions, was physician to queen *Caroline*, not the celebrated Douglas, mentioned in *Goldsmith's Retaliation*, who lately died bishop of Salisbury.

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,
FOR
SEPTEMBER, 1807.

For the Anthology.

Some of our society were present at the celebration of the anniversary of the ☉ B K Society, at Cambridge, and were delighted with the Address of the Rev. Mr. DEHON, on that occasion. The satisfaction of the audience we wished to renew, by publishing in our Miscellany an essay on so important a subject. The author complied with our request; and he deserves our gratitude.

Zealous at all times for the honour of our country, we feel, on this particular subject, anxious to fulfil the prophecies respecting our literary advancement. From Aikin's Annual Review for 1805, we extract a passage of the examination of Miller's Retrospect, for which we hope the history of our country will never cause us to blush. A paragraph on the general importance of literature and science concludes with this elegant sentence: 'Athens was less wealthy than Carthage, less military than Sparta, less wisely governed than Crete; but, having been the dwelling place of learning, taste, and science, its language is still the toil, and its ruins still the pilgrimage of the accomplished.' The reviewer then considers the peculiar advantages of our political situation: 'We are glad to observe that the new world sets out with so few of the prejudices of the old; and that one of the most opportune books, which American literature has yet added to the stock of English reading, should precisely have been consecrated to the history of human improvement. In this retrospect of the eighteenth century we seek in vain for the pedigrees of kings, and the carnage of warfare; we hear of no revolutions but those in the theory of science, of no achievements but those in literature and art. Happy the people to whose peaceful leisure such contemplations are chiefly dear: their emulation will be directed to the discovery of truth, to the production of beauty, to the realization of improvement; they will seek wealth from industry, not from pillage; fame from mental, not corporeal vehemence; and happiness from the diffusion of comfort, not from the agitations of hostility. While Europe rebarbarizes under her Fredericks and her Bonapartes, America may beckon to securer shores the trembling virtues, the patient industries, the curious researches, and the forsaken muses.'

A DISCOURSE

UPON THE IMPORTANCE OF LITERATURE TO OUR COUNTRY, PRO-
NOUNCED BEFORE THE SOCIETY OF ☉ B K, AT THEIR ANNIVERSA-
RY IN CAMBRIDGE, 27 AUGUST, 1807. BY THEODORE DEHON, A. M.

THE importance of literature to our country is the subject which, with much hesitation, I have ventured to select for that part of the customary exercises of this day, which the committee of appointments has confided to my care. It is a subject, for which every enlightened mind feels an instinctive affection. And on ground, where

the muses have long held a favourite resort ; at this season of the celebration of our annual Panathenæa ; before a society professedly literary in its character and pursuits, may I not flatter myself it is a subject, which no one will condemn as unappropriate or uninteresting. When I consider its greatness and its extent, I am prompted by diffidence to pause—and should turn with timidity from the course before me, did I not know, that candour is always the presiding virtue of this festive week ; did I not feel, that I am speaking before brothers, whose bosoms are replete with that affection for each other, which views even failings with an indulgent eye.

The power of letters to soften the manners and refine the sentiments of a people, has attracted the notice of every investigator of the causes of national character. As far as history and observation furnish us with lights, we discover satisfactorily, that they are friendly to good feelings and elevated thoughts, to correct opinions and generous deeds. The barbarity of savage nature is softened, heroism is cherished, vice loses at least its boldness and its grossness, publick spirit is purified, and love is refined, wherever the influence of correct literature is felt. What softened the manners of the originally barbarous Gaul ? The enterprises of war called him to the regions where the Muses had dwelt. He saw at Byzantium the monuments of art. He breathed in Asia the air which came over Parnassus. He returned to his country, where the light of literature was beginning to dawn, and from that time the manners of his country began to be refined. It is unnecessary for me to point you

to the quick sensibility, the enlightened elegance, the humanity, and the polished delicacy of Athens ; and contrast them with the roughness and barbarity of some of her neighbouring states. I need not recal to your remembrance the lofty honour, the publick spirit, the manly virtues of Rome, when she clothed herself with the splendour of literature and the arts ; and contrast them with her ferocity under her earliest chiefs, or with her sluggishness and imbecility under her last emperours. Upon this part of our subject the annals of the world are replete with examples, and lessons of experience. They generally, if not invariably, exhibit barbarism connected with ignorance, and letters with refinement. We may derive from them ample and impressive testimony, that, as far as manners depend upon human means, the best feelings of humanity are unfolded, and the highest elevation of character attained, not amidst the confusion and carnage of fields of war, nor the confounding din of domestick contention, but in the mild seasons of peace, under the benign influence of Pallas and the Muses.

I am aware it may be observed that ages of literary excellence have sometimes been ages of extreme dissoluteness. There is truth in the remark. The fact has arisen from the infelicity of our present condition. In the same bright sunshine which is favourable to the choicest vegetation, weeds will be rank and numerous. It had indeed been happy for Greece and Rome, if when letters freed them from the vices of barbarism, a pure and efficacious religion might have freed them from the vices of refinement. But let not the failings of a luxurious

age be attributed to the spirit of literature merely because they have been found together. Licentiousness has sometimes attached itself to liberty; and persecution has been found in company with the religion of peace. We are to look elsewhere, than to the expansion of man's mental powers, for the causes of the voluptuousness and vice, which may have tarnished the glory of his highest literary attainments. In the distinguished reign of Charles the Second, whose manners have given poignancy to the cavil we are noticing, the human mind bounded suddenly from the repellant point of superstitious rigour, to which it had been unnaturally forced and confined, to the opposite extreme. While it vibrated, there was indeed a triumph of dissoluteness: but when literature recollected herself, and arose in her vigour to regulate its movements, the profligacy of greatness was abashed, the temerity of vice was restrained, the absurdities of ignorance were exposed, the presumption of folly, and the venality of littleness were corrected, and the nation was gradually prepared to listen to the instructions, and pride itself in the name of that pre-eminent votary of wisdom, whose writings at once breathed the purest spirit of morality, and were surrounded with the brightest splendour of literature.

Pass we from the influence of letters upon manners to what is not less important to a people, and we trust will never be less dear to Americans, their influence upon the interests of religion. And is it asserting too much to say, that between religion and letters there is a reciprocal service? Let us look at the ages, in which that pure and gracious religion, which

came down from heaven, had its glory obscured; its efficacy manacled, and the beauties of its form marred by distortion, or covered with the drapery of absurdity. They were the ages of midnight darkness; the ages, in which man seems to have forgotten that he possessed a mind; the ages in which learning, disgusted with the general apathy, retired to the cloister, and slumbered unnoticed amidst the poppies and night-shade, which stupidity there cultivated with leaden perseverance, persuaded by superstition that they were 'herbs of grace.' Let us look at the defenders of this religion, the noble champions, who have gone before her, bearing the shields which have repelled, and blunted and broken the shafts with which her adversaries assailed her. They stood indeed in the spirit of their God. But they brought successfully to her aid the force of improved reason, and were strong in the fruits of their learned researches. The very light of that stupendous reformation, which restored to christianity its purity and freedom, was preceded at its dawn, and facilitated in its progress, by the revival of letters. And it has been the opinion of many eminent divines, among whom, if I mistake not, we may reckon the late excellent professor of divinity in this university, that, ordinarily speaking, the arts of civilization and improvements of the mind will best open the way for the extension of this light into savage lands. Such indeed is the constitution of man, so fine are the powers of association, and so indissoluble the links of the mysterious chain which connects all his faculties with each other, that a cultivated taste and improved understanding, an acquaintance with the

perfections of nature, and the beauties and sublimities of art prepare his mind to admire the harmonies of moral science, and to venerate the greatness of truth. It is a high and important office of our holy religion to check the pride, and prevent the abuses of science; to subject all human attainments to the wisdom of God. But she disdains not the aid of those noble faculties with which the beings are distinguished, to whom she is sent, nor of the acquirements which are placed within their reach.

'Proximos illi tamen occupavit
Pallas honores.'

Biblical knowledge may correct and confirm her ancient records. Eloquence may be the most successful instrument in impressing her instructions upon the mind, and conveying the balm of her consolations to the heart. And sound principles of criticism and taste are, under heaven, efficacious means to preserve her votaries from the fantastick forms of superstition on the one hand, and the wild reveries of fanaticism on the other. Could it be supposed that in this enlightened country there are any who question the utility of learning to religion, and with a spirit worthy of Omar would exclude the powers of genius and literature from her service, we would point them to the dark ages, and to many an unhappy region, in which ignorance and superstition are found wedded together, and the best virtues of humanity dead at their feet. To these ages and regions let our country look; and, as she values the blessing of a pure religion, she will estimate anew and more highly the importance of our seats of learning, and consider it as a leading duty of

national wisdom to promote, by all practicable means, the cultivation of the minds of her citizens.

Besides this general influence of literature upon manners and religion, its aid is important in the formation of the statesman, and embellishment of the hero. It inspires and cherishes that love of glory, which is favourable to the production of brilliant and useful characters; and the keys are in its keeping of many of the sources of that liberal feeling and superior information, which frees men from the confinement of contracted views, and raises them above the influence of narrow considerations. A knowledge of the opinions of the wise of all ages, an acquaintance with the experience of nations under different forms of government, an enlarged perception of the nature and operation of human passions, correct principles of criticism and reasoning, an intimacy with the purest models of political wisdom and patriotick spirit, ability to bring the treasures of language to the illustration and defence of truth, and that magick power of eloquence, which in Cicero could detect and confound the enemies of the commonwealth; and in Demosthenes could rouse from their delusions the slumbering citizens; which in Chatham could gather glory around a British senate, in the day of its feeblest policy; and in Ames could control a whirlwind of passions at the moment when it would have prostrated in its maddening course the venerable father and the peace of his country, these high attainments, which alone can qualify men to be entrusted with the care of their country's prosperity and fame, are most of them found, and all of them improved, in the walk to which learning conducts her

sons. They are not innate : Nor can it be supposed that they spring up to the hands of the husbandman in the furrows of his plough ; or descend unsolicited upon the savage, through the shades of his forest. They are the gifts of Minerva, to the assiduous votaries of her temple ; and the people are wise, who discern their value and give scope to their influence. The era of a nation's greatest glory is generally the era of its greatest literary splendour. The most brilliant age of royalty was that of Louis the Fourteenth, when literature and the arts gave a lustre to the reign which was scarcely surpassed by the glory of that monarch's arms. Of republican felicity, where shall we find a more interesting picture than Florence exhibited, when the love of letters was the pride of her chief citizens, and the offices of state were filled with men of genius and learning. Greece, with whose name is associated in the scholar's mind the claim of transcendent refinement ; Greece was at the acme of her glory when letters and the arts poured the brightest beams of their powers upon her states. And the conqueror of Greece, the mistress of the world, rose not to the complete ascendancy of her superiority, till she had appropriated to herself, not only the territories, but the spirit and literature of the nation she had subdued. Pale, then, as the beams of the waning moon in the light of day, was Grecian splendour, when in full orb'd majesty Rome stood at her zenith, attracting by the combined effulgence of letters and her arms, the admiration of genius and the homage of the world. But with the declension of this effulgence her greatness declined, and Rome—

is an observation of the great English poet, worthy for the instruction of nations, to be graven upon the last stone of her ruins—

'One age saw both learning fall and Rome.'

The invention of the art of printing has introduced a new agent upon the character and fortunes of nations. A free press is esteemed in this country the palladium of our liberty and dearest privileges. Well regulated it may have claim to this high estimation. But a freedom to perpetrate falsehood, licentiousness, and malignity, without restraint, is the unhappy and dangerous freedom of reprobate spirits. The interference of law is here difficult ; and has frequently been found dubious and ineffectual. The best guardians of the press are good sense and a cultivated taste in the people ; and writers, who have imbibed at the high sources of intelligence a spirit of manly virtue and correct opinion. There is ever in republics a subtle adversary to national happiness, by which the utility of the press is often prostituted or impeded. It is the monster faction. Of base spirit, groveling, yet ambitious, it finds its way into the happiest regions, in the form of an angel of light. In the hour of tranquillity and sleep it plants itself by the publick ear, forging illusions for the fancy, and inspiring venom to taint the animal spirits. The work of this fiend is destruction—destruction of the virtue and happiness which its own restlessness, envy, and malignity will not suffer it to endure. Among the most vigilant and successful spirits which heaven has sent to detect and confound this foe to publick prosperity, is high-

born satire. With its spear it touches the monster, and

..... 'Up he starts
..... In his own shape
Discover'd.

This dread corrector of faction and folly is bred in the regions of *Picria*. And fastidious in the consciousness of superiority, it seldom vouchsafes to appear where letters are neglected. When it comes in its dignity and power, when it acts upon passions which God has implanted, and is actuated by motives which God will approve, when it aims to rouse the fear of shame and the love of glory to the aid of truth, virtue, and the publick good, it is at once the boldest asserter of the press's freedom, and the firmest protector of its utility.

By ignorance, as well as faction, this new and important agent upon the interests of nations may be impeded. It is an enlightened press that is a national blessing. *Unless it be wise, in vain will it be free.* With the aid of learning and genius, it may cherish in our country the spirit of freedom, and promote her happiness and renown by the diffusion of knowledge and refinement. Without their aid it can give neither wisdom to her citizens, nor celebrity to her character.

But who loves his country? Would he have her honourable and happy only while he spends in her lustre his own short life! Would he have her great and renowned only in the transient period, which is generally allotted to national existence! The genuine patriot wishes for his country a present, and a posthumous fame. He would have her heroes admired, her statesmen revered, her glory celebrated, her example quoted in far distant ages. If the

period must arrive, when she shall bow to the common fate of empires, he would have the places of her departed glory frequented with a generous sadness by the geniuses of future times, and her very dust venerated by the traveller, who in remotest ages shall pass by her tomb. And what but letters and the arts can confer on our country this unperishable renown? Rome owes more to her letters than to her arms. The latter without the former would not have given immortality to her name. The arts which she fostered have embalmed the proudest memorials of her glory; and time views with increasing awe *those* relicks of her greatness, which *her Muses* have taught him to venerate. Our country in no other way can perpetuate the memory of her renown. Her great men are mortal. Her existence is perishable. The gratitude of her citizens does not demand, and the œconomy of her government does not afford, monuments of brass or marble for the bones of her worthies. To her poets and historians we must confide the care of embalming her celebrity. It is in the pyramids, which her sons of genius must build, that the knowledge of her greatness and the fame of her heroes shall be preserved for ages.

There are obstructions to the progress of literature and the fine arts, which it will not be foreign to our purpose to notice, and every lover of letters and his country should endeavour to remove. Conspicuous among them, and frequently deplored, is that want of patronage, which leaves in cold neglect the exertions of ingenuity, and prefers to intellectual superiority more ignoble attainments. Genius is often the growth of the rude forest or the obscure glade.

If it be not brought into a genial soil, and invigorated with the enlivening beams of attentive encouragement, it must wither upon its stalk or give its glory to the wind. It was in the distinguished age in which Pollio and Mæcenas lived, and the publick eye was turned with fond regard upon all the concerns of letters, that Cicero spake, and Cæsar, and Livy, and Sallust wrote, and Virgil and Horace sang. It was in the celebrated days, when Richelieu with affection and liberality wooed letters to France, and Louis afterwards with prodigal caresses maintained and promoted them, when an academy of belles lettres sprang up under the auspices of royal bounty, and was presently followed by an academy of science, that Corneille and Moliere, Racine and Boileau flourished; and Paris became the most splendid resort of genius and the Muses. What improvement of taste, and developement of learning, were effected in Italy under the beneficence of the Medici; whose generous policy gave consequence to talents by bestowing employment and honour upon ingenious and learned men. In Great-Britain, if the patrons of learning have been partial, they have been numerous; and we find her happiest wits, and best scholars, either basking in the smiles of the court, or reposing in the shades of private munificence. It is with extreme reluctance we are compelled to own, that our country has not yet been distinguished for a generous encouragement of letters and the arts. Her painters seek in foreign climes the animating rays of publick favour. Her philologists and historians have not found the paths of their literary labours, the paths of ease and preferment. And her poets—Apollo

blushes indignant, when he beholds them crouching through necessity to fortune in some inhospitable region; or contemplating in sadness, over forgotten productions, the poverty they might procure to themselves by frequent efforts of their genius.

It has been remarked, and we fear there is too much foundation for the remark, that the passion for wealth, and the ardour of political contention, which are, perhaps, the predominant traits in the character of our countrymen, have retarded the ascendancy of genius, and obstructed the progress of letters. Wealth, which gives leisure and ease; which procures the finest models of art, and the best copies of ancient authors; which promotes the intercourse and facilitates the researches of the learned, is unquestionably favourable to the interests of literature. But when it is the absorbing passion of a people, when it is pursued only for itself, and the extent of possessions is the measure both of merit and influence, there will be little emulation of superiour attainments. The soul, intent upon the acquisition of sordid wealth, as the only means of power and distinction, will have for intellectual pursuits neither time nor regard.

'Fervet avaritia miseroque cupidine pectus.'

In like manner, that open discussion of publick measures, and equal access to publick honours, which are the privileges of a free people, are not unfriendly to the developement of genius, and interests of learning. But there is a warmth of contention, in which the just claims of talents and wisdom are disregarded; and confidence, honour, and publick employment are bestowed, not upon

the sage and the hero, not upon the ingenious and learned, but upon the subtle leaders of the successful party; or the wretched minions of unprincipled power. In each of these cases there is a deadly chill upon the exertions of superiour minds. The Muses in disgust retire to their groves, and their votaries, disheartened, hang up their harps upon the trees that are therein.

Shall we be pardoned the expression, if we further observe, that through the innovating spirit of the times the *republick* of letters may have its dignity and prosperity endangered by sliding inadvertently into a *democracy*? We have heard the time lamented as lost, which students, who would attain to legitimate honours, are compelled to spend in the retired walks of ancient learning. In this sagacious and prolific age men have discovered better models, than the *Iliad* and the *Æneid*, and better instructors, than *Cicero* and *Quintilian*. A Bloomfield has sung from his bench....and what is the advantage of a toilsome acquaintance with languages, that are dead? The Indian is eloquent by the force of nature....and where is the necessity of models and laws! Much to be deprecated is the spread of these wild sentiments, which, like the irruption of the barbarians upon the civil world, would overturn all that is great and beautiful in the walks of literature, and leave in their stead the barrenness of desolation, or the uncouth productions of ignorance and rudeness. Let it be remembered, that whatever there is of correct criticism and taste in the world is to be traced to the recovery of the classics from obscurity and corruption. In the study of these

letters and the liberation and improvement of the human mind. These masters of antiquity were conducted to the Castalian fount by the Goddesses of the spring themselves. Let us discourse with them of the way; and not disdain to follow their steps, when we are witnesses of their immortality. It is with literature, as with government. Neither is a subject of perpetual experiment. The principles of both are fixed. They spring from sources and have relations, which are unchangeable and eternal. If men will despise the principles and rules which are founded in nature, if they will disregard the models which time has proved and hallowed; if they will be irregular in their literary appetites, and arrogant in their designs...what wonder if they should be often left by the justice of Olympus to delight themselves on the bosom of a cloud, and the world of letters should be overrun with Centaurs?

Ignorance, or corruption, in the very important tribunals of criticism, would unquestionably impede the progress and diminish the reputation of American literature. If those should be permitted to erect themselves into literary censors, whom the divinities of *Hellcon* have not anointed, nor deep and thorough acquaintance with ancient authorities and established principles prepared; if indolence, friendship, or political partiality should pervert the judgment of our literary courts, and affix the seal of unqualified approbation to works of small or questionable merit; if proficient in the arts, and professors of learning, in giving their opinion upon the productions of the day, suffer their minds to be prejudiced by the clamour of the moment, and learn

of the multitude what to admire, instead of teaching them what is admirable,....who can anticipate all the consequences? The publick taste would be vitiated. There would be herds of imitators of the false excellences, to which corrupt criticism had given currency. And instead of having our admiration excited, and our attention fixed by distinct and splendid greatness, we should be obligated to turn away, wearied and confused, from the multifarious glitter of countless ephemeral productions.

Here let us be permitted to remark the importance of an able and judicious management of periodical publications. These miscellanies may undoubtedly have a considerable influence upon the literature of a people. In the hands of such men as Addison and Johnson, Goldsmith and Steele, they confounded absurdity and rectified opinion; they roused attention and engaged it in the service of the Muses; and formed and refined the publick taste. Very great, we are persuaded, would be the advantage to the literature of our country, if the meritorious editors of these works were enabled by the generous patronage of the rich, and the liberal contributions of the learned, so to conduct them, that Minerva would not blush to find her image in the frontispiece; and the streams, which are conveyed by them into the circles of the fashionable and the closets of the studious, might be brought, under her direction, from the fountains of Ilyssus.

America in the freedom of her government, the face of her territory, the native powers of her citizens, the toleration, which subjects no reasonable efforts of the mind to penalty or dismay, and the rich

capital of England's learning, which community of language enables her with facility to use as her own, has certainly opportunity and inducements to vie with any nation upon the earth in the pursuit of literary distinction. And let us not defraud her of her just praise. Above the meteors, which flit in great numbers across her literary hemisphere, we may discern here and there a fixed star. It is with new and peculiar delight, that we behold the professional chair of Oratory and Rhetorick in our beloved university now filled by a gentleman*, whom, if he were not left upon Hybla in his infancy, the bees found in his youth, and having committed their treasures to his lips, left him to delight his country with his mellifluous eloquence, and by his wisdom and example to conduct her youth to literary glory. In such ornaments of her academick institutions; in her advancing age and opulence; in the increasing munificence and taste of her citizens; and in the multiplied number† and growing respectability of her literary associations, our country, we trust, will find inducements to emulate in her course the splendour of Grecian and Roman renown. In the transport of hope we would forget, to-day, all presages of fearful hours, and dwell upon this delight-

* The Hon. John Quincy Adams.

† Amongst these a distinguished rank will in time be taken and preserved by the *Boston Athenæum*—an association lately formed, after the model of the Athenæum at Liverpool, for the promotion of literature, science, and general knowledge. It has at its head the learned *Chief Justice* of the state; and from the character and views of many of its members, promises to become one of the most useful and pleasant institutions of the enlightened Metropolis, which has given it birth.

ful expectation. As yet, we trust, it is with our country but the morning of her appointed career. She will continue to rise and brighten—not like the comet of other hemispheres, erratic in its course, baleful in its aspect, and threatening to unhinge the order and safety of the spheres—but like the orb of day, moving on among the nations of the earth with steady progress and increasing splendour. In her wisdom and virtue will be “the greatness of her strength,”

and her literature will give radiance to her beams. And when she shall have reached the meridian of her glory, that point from which a nation's prosperity begins to decline, may the God of heaven, who assigneth to the nations their time and their place, command with the voice, to which even the fixed laws of nature will bow, THAT SHE LONG STAND STILL—a source of light, a centre of harmony, and a manifestation of his power and glory to the admiring world.

MEMOIRS OF M. DE LA HARPE.

Translated from a late French work.

MEN of letters have always been caressed and protected in France; and it will be seen from the following account, that, even before the Revolution, they were admitted into the first circles. This memoir will, at the same time, exhibit the extraordinary occurrence of the conversion of one of the modern philosophers to the doctrines of Christianity!

Jean François de la Harpe was born in the year 1740. His father, who was descended from a noble family in the Pays de Vaud, entered early in life into the service of France, obtained the cross of St. Louis, and, notwithstanding his deficiency in respect to wealth, and the impossibility of ever being able to enrich himself in the profession that had been embraced by him, he married a young lady, more recommendable on account of her beauty, her virtue, and her birth, than by any of the advantages usually derived from fortune. This alliance proved as happy as could possibly be expected; but the prospect of a large family rendered the parents at times peculiarly unhappy.

M. de la Harpe, one of the youngest of the children, had already distinguished himself, at an early period of life, by the display of extraordinary talents, when he lost both father and mother, whose superintendance was so necessary to his education. This young orphan, abandoned by all the world, was destitute of every resource, except what he derived from the charity of some pious and well-disposed persons. Paris, at that period, fortunately presented a number of establishments for children of this description, and the good and charitable people just alluded to, had credit sufficient to place him in one of the colleges of the University, as a pensioner.*

While in this situation, the talents of the young scholar began

* This was then termed a “boursier,” from the *parue* of money with which persons of this description had been originally presented by the rules of the Institution. The Scotch colleges, like the Scotch courts of justice, were formed after the model of the French, and the term *bursar* is accordingly continued to this day, in respect to such, as derive any emolument from the funds of the University.

to be developed, and soon gave rise to the most flattering hopes. His future condition in life depended, in some measure, on his present success; for it was from the *boursiers* that the Universities derived the greater portion of their credit, and continual triumphs appeared to be considered as the price paid by the young people for the asylum, and the attention which they received. Their situation being such, that they could neither reckon on the succour nor the indulgence of their parents, they generally distinguished themselves; and being thus exposed to a perpetual emulation, their courage was excited, and they themselves were rendered capable of extraordinary efforts.

Notwithstanding the disadvantage of being sent to college at too early an age, and being sometimes obliged to study what he could not comprehend, yet, after a short interval, young La Harpe got to the head of his class; and the University of Paris had not been able to boast of such a scholar for many years anterior to this epoch. He displayed the same aptitude in rhetorick as in the languages, and for two succeeding years he obtained all the first prizes; this was a circumstance hitherto unexampled.

Such an unparalleled instance of success occasioned no small degree of surprise; this boy accordingly became the subject of conversation: his admittance to the houses of persons of distinction, began to be considered as a kind of *fashion*; and he was accordingly well known in the world, before he had entirely completed his studies.

This precarious celebrity would have proved extremely prejudicial to most persons in his condition of life; but he, on the contrary, per-

severed in his studies with unabating industry, and had good sense enough to discover, that the reputation which a young man acquires at college, is neither solid nor durable.

At this period of his life an event occurred, which, while it exhibits the despotick nature of the French government, may, at the same time, account perhaps for his early partiality in favour of a reform. Having addicted himself to the composition of satires, he was supposed to be the author of a lampoon against a person of great credit;* and, in consequence of bare unauthorised suspicion, was committed to the house of correction! He himself constantly protested his innocence, and the real author was soon after discovered: yet this circumstance proved for some time unfavourable to his reputation, and it was long before it became entirely forgotten.

Notwithstanding this, M. de la Harpe already began to be distinguished by men of letters, and the first to whom he became known, was the celebrated Diderot. The interview between them, however, was not calculated to produce friendship; for this stripping, then only seventeen years of age, had the hardihood, and, it may be added, the ill manners, to attack this celebrated man relative to his productions, which he appears to have ridiculed to his face, with more humour than wisdom.

By this time his verses, as well as his college-exercises, had obtained for him a certain degree of reputation in the world; so that, at this period, he was invited to compose the tragedy of 'Warwick': this circumstance prevented him from experiencing many

* M. Asselin.

of those vexations which authors generally complain of at their outset in life. The actors, in particular, were prodigal of their applause; and, notwithstanding its premature reputation, a circumstance generally dangerous, his first dramatick effort obtained a degree of success which may be considered as nearly unexampled, for the like had not occurred since the time that Voltaire composed his tragedies for the Parisian stage. It was to this famous man that he dedicated his first performance; and on receiving a flattering answer from this patriarch of literature he thought proper to prefix it to the work.

But the emoluments derived from the representation of 'Warwick,' did not prove sufficient to defray the expenss of a young man, who had been admitted into the first circles, and was, at the same time, far from being an economist. It therefore became necessary to occupy his time in such a manner as to be able to derive further advantages from his literary labours. His reputation, which was by this time considerable, accordingly obtained admission for him as one of the editors of the 'Gazette Littéraire,' a journal in which all the *philosophes*, as they were called, of that day wrote; and whence it undoubtedly derived no small portion of its reputation. Marmontel, Saurin, Dami Saville, furnished certain articles; even Voltaire himself sometimes transmitted his lucubrations.

As the periodical work in question was principally directed against 'l'Année Littéraire,' conducted by Fremont, the latter immediately began to libel both 'Warwick' and its author. This, like many of the unjust and petulant criticisms of

the present day, did not produce the effect that had been expected; for although it occasioned much chagrin to this young man of talents, who possessed no other resources but those derived from his abilities, yet the publick did not become prejudiced against him; on the contrary, his tragedy was performed, as usual, to crowded houses.

It is with pain we are now obliged to mention a circumstance that confers but little credit on the ingenuosities of the subject of this memoir. After some able, but bitter, criticisms on 'Le Siège de Calais,' which happened to be performed, at this period, with a degree of success equal to that formerly experienced by the 'Cid,' he was induced, by the popularity of the play, to attempt one himself, after the same manner. He accordingly recurred to the history of France, and selected Pharamond as his hero.

Having been invited to spend some time with Voltaire, at this period he confided his intentions to his friend, who in vain endeavoured to dissuade him. The poet would not listen to the fate anticipated by the critick, whose opinions were, however, but too soon realized, for the piece was damned. On this the author, judging of his own labours with an equal degree of severity as the publick, threw the manuscript into the fire, and thus destroyed a work, of which certain portions were perhaps worthy of a better fate.

Soon after this, at the express recommendation of his patron, he was persuaded to alter the 'Gazette Littéraire' of Piron. But the critics appear to have been alarmed, and almost disgusted, at the presumption of so young a man, and many epigrams were published against four-

him on this very account. The *Parterre*, too, was of the same opinion at the first representation, and every part of it seemed determined to exclaim, "Rendez nous Piron!"— "Restore us Piron!"

This, like his 'Pharamond,' was accordingly played but once, and the tragedy of 'Timoleon' did not prove much more fortunate, as, after a few representations, it also was laid aside.

The author who, subsequently to the flattering reception given to his 'Warwick,' had considered himself as the legitimate successor of the great masters of his art, and had flattered himself with the idea, that his reputation was entirely exempt from criticism, immediately changed from the excess of confidence to the excess of discouragement, and now renounced all hopes from the theatre. In consequence of this resolution, he devoted more of his time to general literature, which seemed to be, at this period, his favourite element.

The academick institutions, so common at this period in most of the cities of France, presented an opportunity for young men to distinguish themselves, and also procured for them, if they were so fortunate as to obtain a prize, considerable pecuniary resources. The French Academy had introduced the custom of proposing either the eulogies of great men, or the solution of some great question, either moral or philosophical. M. de la Harpe entered into this career, in which Thomas had already distinguished himself; and it is allowed by all, that his academick discoveries possessed a certain degree of dignity, which is rarely to be found in those of his rivals.

Being now resolved to marry, he selected a young woman for his wife, whose parents had been very

poor, but who, notwithstanding this, had received an excellent education. He was at pains to inspire her with a taste for literature, and appeared, above all, solicitous that she should be able to converse with him, relative to those objects which occupied his attention. This lady, who had frequented the *Theatre Francaise*, was soon capable of declaiming; and by repeating the speeches composed by her husband, was thus enabled to afford him an idea, as it were, by anticipation, in what manner they would be received on the stage. But after the misadventure that occurred to 'Gustave,' this proved of but little service, and the young couple were soon reduced to great distress.

On this, Voltaire, with his accustomed generosity, interposed, and expressed a wish that they should remain with him at Ferney, until the complete re-establishment of their affairs. The residence of this kind patron was, at this period, the centre of the correspondence of all the philosophers of Europe, while he himself was looked up to as their patriarch. Men of rank, courtiers, magistrates, and even trades-people, imposed on themselves the obligation of performing a pilgrimage to the *Pays de Gex*, in which his little domain was situated. Accustomed to correspond, and conversed familiarly with princes and even kings, he himself seemed to resemble a sovereign, and enjoyed almost similar honours; for his anti-chamber was crowded every morning with strangers, who were paired thither merely to see him, and were enraptured if he deigned to open his mouth.

It was at this court, the first which any poet had ever formed around him, that M. and Madame

de la Harpe now arrived: Voltaire had erected a theatre, on which his earlier tragedies were acted, and by its means he also formed a notion of such as he had recently composed. His new guests immediately formed part of the *dramatis persone*; and as they possessed good figures, and were accustomed to declaim, they soon united all the suffrages in their favour.

It was precisely at this period that the subject of the present memoir began to conceive hopes of being admitted into the French Academy. His claims consisted of a tragedy, which had become a stock-piece at the theatre, together with two discourses which had been crowned. D'Alembert, and even Marimontel, considered his pretensions to be well founded, and did every thing in their power to pave the way for his reception; but Dorat, then in great vogue at Paris, had been offended by some of his criticisms, and having become his enemy, prevented his success.

His distress at this period was so great, that he had at one time nearly consented to repair to the Court of St. Petersburg; but he was prevented by the remonstrances of Voltaire, with whom he had now resided for the space of thirteen months. During this visit, he had written some scenes of his tragedy of 'Baremeckides,' and also 'La Reponse à l'Épître de l'Abbé de Rancé.'

A new epoch in his life now occurred. On his return to the capital, he betook himself as before, to criticism, and had the good fortune, as he then deemed it, to be associated with Lacombe, at that period the proprietor and the editor of the 'Mercure.' On 1764, that journal assumed a new ap-

pearance; for, by means of his pen and his talents, it soon acquired an uncommon degree of circulation and celebrity.

M. Dupati having, nearly at the same time, proposed the Elogy of Henry IV. on the part of the Academy of Rochelle, La Harpe became a candidate for the prize; but he only obtained the *accessit*. He was also introduced, by means of Voltaire, to the Duc de Choiseul, and soon acquired the friendship of that minister, who entertained a high respect for his merit. When the French Premier was weary of publick affairs, he conversed with him on the subject of literature; and, on all occasions, he expressed his opinions with a degree of frankness which the other had hitherto been but little accustomed to. It was to please him that he translated Sæctonius into French, which was begun and completed in the space of two months. We lament to add, that it was immediately published, while still in an imperfect state; and as he had, by this time, increased the number of his enemies, in consequence of the boldness and severity of his criticisms, they took care to point out all its faults, and that too with an unexampled degree of bitterness. La Harpe, on the other hand, admitted all the errors attributed to him, with a degree of frankness which was but little expected, and this contributed not a little to obtain his pardon with the publick.

In addition to this, he now added greatly to his former reputation by means of a drama, entitled 'Melanie,' respecting which Voltaire, D'Alembert, and most of the celebrated men of that age, had already raised the curiosity of the publick. The moral of it was wholly directed against monastick

institutions, and vows made at a period when the contracting party was incapable of judging as to the solemnity and extent of the engagement. The poet of Ferney wrote to him as follows on this subject: "You have all the philosophers and the ladies on your side, and, with such a recommendation, it is impossible to fail."

This prophecy was fully confirmed by the event; but, in the very zenith of his reputation, he was in danger of being sent to the Bastille, in consequence of some satirical verses against the Duke de Richelieu, a nobleman celebrated for his gallantries and debaucheries of all kinds, but whose influence at the court of Louis XV. a prince of a similar temperament, was such, as to have shut up one half of the men of letters in Paris, *on bare suspicion*, had he been so inclined! Voltaire, on this, as on every other occasion, interposed his ægis, and preserved his friend.

Meanwhile the Elogy of Fenelon, which obtained the prize at the French Academy, conferred new reputation on the labours of La Harpe, and he pleased the philosophical party, by whom he had been constantly protected, in consequence of some sly attacks on the character of Bossuet. As D'Alembert was now in high credit with this body, he was at length certain that he would be admitted a member, and this consideration supported and enabled him to continue his labours.

On the accession of Louis XVI. M. Turgot, become one of the new ministers, took every opportunity of exhibiting a high degree of regard for the subject of this memoir, who was now busily occupied about three different dramatick works, which were to point

at three different objects. In the 'Baremeicides,' he endeavoured to describe heroism and generosity; in 'Jeanne de Naples,' the fatal effects of the passions; and in 'Menzikoff,' the disgrace of a powerful minister, a disgrace the better calculated to obtain interest and attention, by being accompanied with a degree of resignation almost without a parallel in history. The last of these attracted such applause, that the young queen became desirous to be present at the representation; and such was the effect of this trifling circumstance in a despotick country, that it put the adversaries of the author to silence!

Nearly at the same time, he obtained the long-expected chair of the French Academy, having succeeded Colardeau. From this moment his enemies became more reserved in their attacks, and he in his censures. M. Necker also, on his advancement to a high situation in the management of the finances, evinced the greatest respect for La Harpe: but it was to Calonne, with whom he had no manner of connexion, that he was indebted, about this period, for a pension.

After having distinguished himself by his criticisms in three different literary journals, all of which he rendered celebrated, M. de la Harpe at length determined to commence a 'Cours de Littérature' at the Lyceum. In the capacity of a professor, he accordingly read a course of lectures to the Parisians, both male and female, who were so captivated with his taste and talents, that this amusement not only became fashionable, but he himself obtained the appellation of 'The French Quintilian.'

When the Revolution occurred;

notwithstanding the loss of his pension, our author for some time adopted the principles of the reformers. During two whole years, he remained firm to the party that then triumphed; but he no sooner imagined that they had overstepped the boundaries at which they ought to have stopped, than he wrote against them in the 'Mercur.' On this he was denounced, and obliged in some degree to retract, and that circumstance afterwards furnished a pretext for the most odious calumnies on the part of his enemies. In 1793, he was at length arrested, and imprisoned in the Luxembourg. By this time, a large proportion of those with whom he had been intimately connected had lost their lives on the scaffold, and the same fate appeared to be reserved for himself. La Harpe now became melancholy, and was ready to fall into despair: on this he, who had hitherto distinguished himself as a man of letters, and an academician, without paying any attention to the prevailing opinions relative to religion, determined to taste of the consolations of Christianity.

A pious female, with whom he had got acquainted during his confinement, is said to have first inspired him with this idea; and having advised him to seek for consolation in the Psalms of David, he was so charmed with them, that he immediately commenced a literary commentary, in which he pointed out their beauties. This was afterwards converted into a Preliminary Discourse to the Translation of the Psalms, the first work in which he announced his conversion.

That event occasioned some noise; more especially as he informs his readers in one of the notes, that he was accustomed to

obtain comfort in his affliction, by opening the Psalms, as if, by accident, and looking at the first passage which occurred. In this, he at one particular period, not only found great consolation, but he says that he received from it a solution of all his difficulties.

On being released from confinement, De la Harpe entered the world quite a different man from what he was before, being now determined, to support that cause with intrepidity, which he had embraced with so much ardour. He accordingly resolved thenceforward to dedicate his literary harangues, which were originally intended to form the taste of his auditors, to the defence of religion. Great labour and much attention were required, to give this direction to his 'cours de littérature'; but notwithstanding the multitude of obstacles that interposed, he in the space of a very few years completed that vast Circle of Literature, in which both ancients and moderns are judged and appreciated.

On his re-assuming the chair at the Lyceum, he made a full, public, and ample recantation, of his former opinions; but he was twice proscribed, and obliged to fly. During the latter of those persecutions, he obtained an asylum at a house but a few leagues distant from Paris, by the interposition of the pious female who had been the means of producing the alteration in his religious opinions, while imprisoned at the Luxembourg; and during this period of his life, he composed his celebrated pamphlet, entitled, 'Le Fanatisme dans la Langue revolutionnaire,' which was read with an extraordinary degree of avidity, but, at the same time, added not a little to the fury of his enemies.

After this, he entirely renounced the study of the "Apology de la Religion," and pursued and studied the Lives of the Saints, and other holy books, for the express purpose of deriving arguments from those sources, against the philosophers and their writings. On this occasion he must be allowed to have possessed one advantage, not enjoyed before by any of his predecessors, as he knew both the weak and the strong points of the doctrine he now combated; and indeed, according to his own expression, he had spent "nearly the whole of his life in the enemy's camp."

M. de la Harpe had always been industrious in his literary labours, and his ardour for application appears to have increased during the period of his proscription. The Chamber occupied by him overlooked a garden surrounded with very high walls, where he could walk whenever he was so disposed. During the whole of the morning, he was accustomed to write at a table near the window; and in the afternoon, he took the only recreation he permitted himself to enjoy: this consisted solely in a solitary walk.

On his return to his apartment, he resigned himself to pious exercises, and concluded the evening by reading works analogous to those he was engaged on. This uniform and sedentary life did not in the least tire him; all the activity of his mind was occupied in that cause to which he had devoted himself; and the continual dangers to which he remained exposed, could not in the least alter that mental tranquillity so eminently enjoyed by him. He was often accustomed, indeed, to remark, that the epoch of his proscription proved the happiest portion of his

life: his health, indeed, seemed to improve, and his friends flattered themselves that his career would still prove long and brilliant: but they were disappointed!

No sooner were the apprehensions of M. de la Harpe dissipated, and he had returned to mix with the world, than all the flattering appearances of longevity were immediately dissipated. A number of infirmities, to which he had hitherto been a stranger, now shewed themselves; and he himself began to anticipate the melancholy catastrophe. Firmly convinced in his own mind, that he could never better repair his former errors, than by a work calculated to enlighten the incredulous, he laboured with additional ardour at his *Apology for Religion*, in which he had embraced a vast and extensive plan. He was often accustomed to observe, when speaking on this subject, that he could die without regret, provided he were but able to finish this work.

La Harpe had no occasion for these warnings to prepare himself for death, for he not only fulfilled all the duties of religion with the most minute exactitude, but even expiated his former mistakes, by means of a most rigorous penance. Several of his surviving friends have beheld him at times, when he did not think himself observed, lying with his face towards the east, and exhibiting the most lively signs of a sincere repentance.

His last illness, which exhibited a complication of diseases, announced itself in a manner so as to demonstrate from the very first, that the termination would be fatal. No sooner did he perceive death inevitable, than his resignation, amidst the most equal sufferings, became equally instructive and affecting to those who sur-

rounded: his friends were astonished that, notwithstanding the impetuosity of his character, he was able to support the agonies of dissolution without a groan. But what still surprised them more, was the indifference which he affected for his own works; an indifference which not only extended to his literary, but even his religious productions. During the whole of his illness, he never once mentioned his Apologie de la Religion, to which he had before attached such importance; but contented himself with exclaiming, a few days before his dissolution, "God has not permitted me to repair the evil I have committed!" At the approach of death, his agonies seemed to be somewhat alleviated; he also preserved his usual presence of mind, and was still capable of conversing with his friends. His eyes, however, could no longer bear the light, and he has kept constantly shut up within the covers of his bed. In this position he heard and understood every word that was uttered, and sometimes he himself would mention to his friends the conclusions which he derived from religion. One of the most remarkable on this occasion, is that his affection of courage was observable in his discourse, which was characterized by an humble resignation. "The philosophers," adds he, "endeavour to die in a theatrical manner, but Christians, on the other hand, are filled with reflections of a nature superior to all human greatness. I have resigned my life February 18, 1793, in the 60th year of my age, and in the full of my will, which was made at the beginning of my illness, contains a variety of legacies to his relations and the poor, as well as

his best wishes for the prosperity of France. On the evening before his demise, he made the following declaration, which we shall here transcribe, without any commentary whatever, leaving it entirely to the reader to decide, relative to the religious opinions of this very extraordinary man:

"Having yesterday enjoyed the happiness," says he, "of receiving the holy communion, for the second time, I deem it my duty once more to make the last declaration of these sentiments which I have publicly manifested during the last nine years, and in which I still persevere. A Christian, by the grace of God, and professing the catholic, apostolical, and Roman religion, in which I have had the happiness to be born and educated, and in which it is my concluding wish both to live, and to die, I declare that I firmly believe in whatsoever is believed and taught by the Roman church, the only church founded by Jesus Christ. That I condemn with my heart and spirit all that she has deemed, and that I approve all that she approves. In consequence of which, I retract all that I have written and printed, or that has been printed under any name, which is contrary to the catholic faith, or to good morals; thereby disavowing the same, and as much as lies in my power condemning and disavowing the publication of them, as well as the reprinting and representation on the theatre. I do hereby, equally, retract and disavow every proposition that may have escaped from me in these different writings, to do the same of all my countrymen to entertain sentiments of peace and of concord;

I ask pardon of all those who think they have a right to complain of me, and myself, at the same time, in like manner, most sincerely pardon all those of whom I have a right to complain.

same time, in like manner, most sincerely pardon all those of whom I have a right to complain.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

From an AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE to his friends in his country.

LETTER SEVENTH.

Naples, 16 Jan. 1801

SINCE I last wrote you I have made a second visit to Pompeii, in consequence of the discovery of a new room, in which an usual great variety of articles in use among the Romans was found. As the very unfortunate death of the Otiose Muski has hitherto prevented any seeing the collection at Portici, this discovery is very opportune to me, and for the same reason, the description may be interesting to you. Indeed it forms a very notable indemnity for the loss of my visit to Portici, for as a large proportion of the curiosities in the palace at that place consisted of pictures cut out of the walls, these found in the new rooms, just opened, are some compensation for the loss, and indeed enable us to form a perfect idea of the whole, and the same oils discovered in the late excavations gave us a very good idea of those before found, to which we can add the satisfaction of knowing their authenticity and antiquity, by surprising them in the way we usually phrase it, in the fact.

by better judges than I am, that the designs of those pictures are in general imitable, and that the ablest modern artists could not change a single fold in the draperies to advantage; but the execution and finishing are generally bad. This, however, is by no means extraordinary, as they were the common finishings of their rooms, and stood in the place of our paper hangings. None but emperours could afford to employ the best artists in the decoration of their rooms. The subject of the piece which I saw in this newly excavated house, was the story of Actæon; and the moment which the painter had chosen for his pencil was when the dog of Diana had just fastened upon the unhappy youth, and when the new-born horns had just started from his brow; but while he retained in all other respects the human form. The malicious fury of the dog, and the horron of Actæon, in his momentary period, and gazing the deity of Diana, his undeserved fate, are very naturally described, if the ancients did not therefore, in the highest style of painting, equal the moderns; if Apelles cannot justly claim a share of the glory, it must be acknowledged, that their house painters most certainly called their pictures in the same humble but useful appellation of pictures of legends as well as the gods and the

There is one large picture in the house lately excavated, which gives a very excellent example of the degree of perfection to which the ancients had attained in their painting. It has been observed

Among the articles found in this late excavation, were two very elegant marble tables, in a style of workmanship far superior to any modern productions of this kind. The legs of the tables were of a colour totally different from, and indeed in contrast to the leaf or top. The polish and beauty of this marble were totally unaffected, either by time or the substances which had surrounded it. No artist could deliver a piece of work from his shop in more perfect order than these were, except some little breaches, which they had sustained in the overthrow of the house. Two perfect iron tires for wheels, together with all the metallic parts of a complete, and probably elegant coach, were also found.

It is strange, considering the very dry nature of the pumice stone which covered Pompeia, and the perfect and unchanged state of the paintings in fresco, that no piece of wood, in a perfect state, should have been found in this city; and indeed as far as I am informed in any of the buildings of this city. You can only then conjecture the form of the implements of wood, from the parts which remain of the metals formerly attached to them. Iron has suffered more than any metal discovered in Pompeia; this is very natural, and the causes familiar to chemists. The oxyd of iron, formed around all the implements, of that metal, has drawn in and caused to adhere to the body, all the stones and small foreign bodies, which came in contact with it, so that some process and labour are necessary, to detach them, and discover its real form.

I have a small piece of iron with its envelope, thus formed, which I shall send home, with my other

specimens of Vesuvian productions.

The tires of the wheels remarkable for their form, width, and diameter; they consisted of a single hoop, as the English ones now generally do. The iron boxes and hoops, to the hubs of the wheels, were precisely the same as they now are. The axle-trees were of wood, and to the ends of them were attached pieces of iron, which went on the inferior side, and extended through the boxes, and a little beyond them only. All these little parts are as perfect as ever, and shew that we have not only not improved, but have not varied.

Various round and other shaped ornaments of brass, were found, which were attached to the carriage, and which bear a strong resemblance to the plated and brass ornaments which decorate our modern coaches and chariots.

There were small chamber lamps, made of earthen ware, precisely resembling those now in use in Europe, and indeed in our own country. There were a very great number of amphoræ, or earthen vessels, which the Romans used not only for wine, but oil, wheat, and various species of grain. This is perfectly ascertained; because these various substances, or their remains, were found in them in so unquestionable a shape, as leaves no room even for scepticks to doubt. Two things have occurred to me on this subject, which I thought worthy of mention. The first, that it is extraordinary that the Romans should either not have known the use of wooden tubs, or should have despised them. The fact is undoubted for we find amphoræ of every size, from a gallon to several hundred; I should expect, but at least, one hundred; and in such quantities, that at

stone, there is a large mountain, or hill, two miles out of the city, which is wholly composed of broken pieces of amphora. The other fact worthy of notice is, that most of these earthen vessels were made with so small a bottom, that they cannot stand up without support; and they were obliged either to bury them partially, or to sit them against a wall, to prevent them from falling. It must be remarked, however, that the forms are extremely various, as well as their capacity, but they have generally this (what we should consider) defect, which I leave to your wiser heads to explain.

Before the discovery of Herculaneum and Pompeia, much doubt existed whether the ancients had the art of making glass; but all these difficulties have been cleared up. They certainly not only had the art, but I believe in a very perfect degree. I saw a large bottle of clear glass, with a handle, resembling those which are used for spirit or brandy with us. There were several small phials, of very nice and difficult workmanship, on account of their minuteness and singular shape. The glass was very clear, considering that it was extremely dirty, not having been

washed since the discovery. The guide, who shewed me these things, a man of some learning, made me remark, that there was no mark of the place, to which the blow-pipe had been attached, as in our modern manufactures; and yet no appearance of its having been ground or cut, which are the present modes of getting rid of this imperfection.

The fact is undoubtedly so, but I leave to the learned to decide, whether they had a different mode of blowing, or whether they cut so nicely, as to give the natural and simple rotundity of blown glass; or whether (which I think most probable) the blow-pipe was attached to the present mouth of the bottle, instead of the bottom. I saw an elegant glass salt-cellar, filled with what I fancy was the remnants of salt; and several pieces of glass, coloured blue, white, and green throughout, which prove that the ancients had *that art* of colouring glass, which the moderns so highly value.

On the whole, my visit to examine these novel discoveries, gave me much gratification; and if the description of part of them shall afford you an half hour's relaxation and pleasure, I shall be happy to

Your's, &c.

MISCELLANY.

For the Anthology.

PLAGIARISM may be defined to be the taking and carrying away the literary property of another *animò furandi*. It seldom happens that those, whose intellectual poverty compels them to such dishonourable conduct, have the hardihood to appear in publick with such property, without first altering its appearance and defacing the ear-marks. The addition, or the subtraction of a word, the am-

plification or the condensation of a passage, and above all the appropriation of a metaphor to illustrate a new object, are, amongst these classes of men, deemed a sufficient alteration of property to warrant its assumption to themselves. The owner not being able to prove a clear and indefeasible title to the whole, to the critical judge is left the intricate and intricate task of ascertaining it, and in the division

of a shadow, of determining, how much belongs to the owner, and how much to the literary thief. After the claims of the respective parties have been adjusted and identified, the world is too much fascinated by the golden dreams of avarice to feel any interest in the question, or even to read a report of the case. This evil has been so long felt and endured in the republic of letters, that the citizens of that commonwealth seem now aroused from their lethargy, and disposed to prosecute to final judgment every one so offending against the peace and dignity of the state. They raise the hue and cry, and the whole community in mass follow in the pursuit, so that scarce any culprit escapes without punishment. It is because this alarm has been raised to the great annoyance and detriment of many good and honest citizens, who in consequence thereof have been arrested, tried, and by a verdict of their peers honourably acquitted of the charge, that the writer of the present article has conceived it his duty to state the law on the subject. By the good old laws of said commonwealth it is expressly provided, that no freeman of Parnassus shall be arrested or imprisoned, or dis seized of the free customs and liberties of the realm, or outlawed, or exiled, or passed upon, or in any manner destroyed, unless by trial of his peers, or by the laws of the land. Grave and learned commentators on this passage have holden, that according to the letter and spirit of the text, no man's literary reputation shall be put in jeopardy, without probable cause is first made manifest. They have further holden that all persons so offending are trespassers ab initio, and liable to pay heavy damages to the party so aggrieved. The

genius of this republic, like that of all other republics, is obnoxious and peculiarly hostile to spies and informers; a class of men who shake the quiet of the realm by groundless alarms, and whose very subsistence is derived from the number of condemnations they procure. It is therefore proper to apprise the citizens at large, that a number of such have arrived within our borders; the Titus Oateses of literature, who have found divers plots and conspiracies in their own imaginations only. To drop all metaphor, the most ordinary coincidence of thought, or expression amongst writers, is in our day regarded as plagiarism positive, and the priority of their respective publication furnishes the only criterion demanded to ascertain the transgressor. Many make no allowance for inevitable resemblances of two congenial minds, employed on the same subject. To give an example; Mr. Ames, in his eloquent speech in the house of representatives on the subject of Mr. Jay's treaty, has the following exquisitely brilliant and beautiful passage: "Some would rejoice if Great Britain were sunk into the sea, if the place where liberty and law, and humanity and religion reside, should become a sand bank for the sea monster to fatten on; a space for the storms of the ocean to mingle in conflict." All dwellings else flood overwhelm'd, and thence with all their pomp Deep under water roll'd; sea covered sea, Sea without shore, and in their palaces? Where luxury laid reign'd, sea-monsters

This was probably the seminal idea, which, when planted in a soil

bounding in every beautiful flower, shot up into a noble plant, and expanded the magnificent drapery of its blossoms. In the trial of Archibald Hamilton Rowan, the metaphoric Curran thus expresses himself: 'My lord, you are now standing on a scanty isthmus, that divides the vast ocean of duration; on the one side the past, on the other side, the future; a ground that, while you yet hear me, is washing from beneath your feet.' Addison in one of his Spectators remarks, that 'in our speculations of eternity, we consider the time, which is present to us, as the middle, which divides the whole line into two equal parts. For this reason many witty authors compare the present time to an isthmus, or narrow neck of land, rising in the midst of an ocean immeasurably diffused on either side of it.' Whether the mind of Mr. Curran, at the time he was speaking, dwelt on the passage, cited from Addison, or not, it is unimportant to know; he is free from the charge of plagiarism in either case; the ocean of eternity and the isthmus of existence have, from the frequency of their use, now become *synonyma propria*. It is only the washing away of the ground, that renders the figure worth the preservation.

I am not to be deterred by the squibs and crackers, which mischievous literary boys throw in my face, from citing Virgil again. James Thomson, of and belonging to the island of Great-Britain, poet, stands charged with having taken stolen, and carried away sundry articles of poetical property, belonging to Publius Virgilius Maro, knowing the said articles of right to belong to him the said Maro with force and arms, and against

the peace and dignity of said literary republick.

'Oh! knew he but his happiness, of

The happiest he! who far from publick rage,
Deep in the vale, with a choice few retir'd,

Drinks the pure pleasures of the rural life.

What though the dome be wanting,
Whose proud gate,

Each morning, vomits out the sneaking crowd.

Of flatterers false, and in their turn abus'd!

Vile intercourse! What though the glittering robe

Of every hue reflected light can give,
Or floating loose, or stuff with massy gold,

The pride and gaze of fools, &c.

Seasons, p. 133.

'O fortunatos nimium, sua si bona norint,
Agricolae, quibus ipsa, prociū discor-

dibus terris,

Fundit, humo, facilem victam iustissimæ tellus!

Si non ingentem foribus domus alta superbis

Mant salutantum totis vomit ædibus

Non varios inhiant pulchra testudinis postes,

Illasque auro vestes.'

Geor. lib. 2. v. 457 et seq.

'Let others leave the blood for quest
Of gain, (what soil so e'er)

And best, for jingles, moorings, the gloomy wave.

Let such as deem it glory to destroy,
Rush into blood, the sack of cities seek;

Unstated, bustling in the wilderness
And wailing still in the distance

The virgin's shriek, and infant's entreat
Hing cry.

Let some, far distant from their native soil,

Urg'd on by want, or hatred's lava fire,
Find other lands beneath another star;

Or some, in their own country, still
Some, in their own country, still

Some, in their own country, still
Some, in their own country, still

Some, in their own country, still
Some, in their own country, still

Hic potit excidit urbem, miseroque penates,
 Ut gemmâ bibat, et Sarrano indormiat ostro :
 Condit opes alius, defossoque incubat
 Hic stupet attonitus rostris : hunc plausus hiantem
 Per cuneas; gemmâque cunctis plebitque patrumque
 Corripuit : gaudent perfusi sanguine fratrum,
 Exsiliisque demos et dubia hâmina mutant,
 Atque alio patriam quaerunt sub sole jacentem.

Geor. lib. 2. v. 502 et seq.

'The fall of kings,

The rage of nations, and the crash of states,

Move not the man, who, from the world escap'd, &c. *Seasons, 138.*

'Illum non populi fasces, non purpara regum Flexit.' *Geor. lib. 2. v. 494.*

'Snatch me to Heaven's, thysoiling wonders there,
 World beyond world, in infinite extent,
 Profusely scatter'd o'er the blue immense,
 Show me ; their motions, periods, and their laws,
 Give me to scan.'

'But if to that unequal ; if the blood, In smoky streams about my heart, forbid

That best ambition ; under closing shades, In glorious, lay me by the lonely breast, And whisper to my dreams.' *Seasons, p. 137.*

'Cœlique vias et sidera monstrant, Desbetas solis vates, hincque labores.' *Geor. l. 2. v. 476 et seq.*

'Sin, has ne possim natura accedere partes,

Frigidas obstitit circum præcordia æquis ;
 Rura mihi et rigui placeant in vallibus annes ;
 Flumina amem silvasque inglorias.'

'O qui me gelidâ in vallibus Hæmi Sistet, et ingenti ramorum protegat umbra.' *Geor. lib. 2. v. 487 et seq.*

The above are only given as instances. Some of the passages the author of the Seasons has expanded, some contracted, and others adapted to the country, where he resided. It is well worth the labour of a man, whose hours are consecrated to literature, to begin at the 458th line of the second book of the Georgics and continue on to the end, and then to compare it with the 1233d line of Thomson's Autumn to the conclusion of the book, and he will be convinced beyond all doubt, that the British Bard was under more obligation to the Roman, than he had the gratitude to confess. This charge is perfectly distinct from that casual coincidence of expression, or thought, between two writers, denominated plagiarism by some. In fact, if Thomson has done this without being sensible of it, it furnishes an argument in favour of the Pythagorean system of divinity, and we may venture to pronounce that the shade of Virgil passed from Elysium and inhabited the body of the British Bard, without tasting a drop of the water of Lethe before his passage.

R.

For the Anthology.
REMARKER. No. 25.

SUPERIORITY OF PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY TO SCIENTIFIC RESEARCHES.

It was the labour of Socrates to turn philosophy from the study of nature to a consideration of man. He was of opinion, that what we had to learn was, how to do good, and avoid evil.

IN every cultivated age of the world the misapplication of learning has been a subject of severe reproach. If the complaints had originated from irritable petulance, envious discontent, or vulgar animadversion, the objects of censure in their superiority of character would have despised the weakness of such harmless effort; they would have felt little despondency about the continuance of present applause and the durability of future renown. But when the satire proceeds from men, whose excellence in virtue places them above the imputation of injurious designs, or whose rank in erudition authorizes the sentiments of reproach, all attempts at justification are fruitless, for the opinion of the world is settled, when the edict of sovereignty is irresistible.

The biographers of Socrates have delighted to dwell on his moral exertions and practical philosophy. As experience convinced him of the shortness of life, and reasoning prompted the credibility of future existence, he thought it foolish to spend a little round of days and waste the glorious endowments of the mind upon subjects of which theoretic ingenuity, but of no determinate value. The philosophers of Greece in the age of Socrates confined the exertion of their knowledge to speculating on the elements of nature, or chief good; to elucidating the principles of matter and mind; and to

obscuring the plainest truths by doubtful suggestions, or perplexing them in the intricacies of sophistry and the subtleties of metaphysick. Socrates was the first who inveighed against such employment of time and talents; he drew down from heaven a better philosophy, and showed to the Athenians sublimer subjects of contemplation; in his familiar conversations he insisted on the necessity of active, personal beneficence; his days were consumed, not in the schools of frivolous sophists, or in the retreats of all-important, self-opinionated dogmatists, but in the streets, among the poor, the ignorant, and the weak, at the couch of repentant crime, or in the lowly coverts of declining age. The propriety of his distinction between speculative and practical good, and the general excellence of his doctrines, if they wanted support, might receive it from the applause of successive generations; but they require no superfluous confirmation, for they are evidenced by the goodness of his life and corroborated by the greatness of his death.

Undoubtedly active benevolence is superior to intellectual greatness in the advantages, conferred upon mankind; but, in the order of Providence, it was never intended that an example of continual active charity should be the absolute rule of universal conduct. Such an obligation would confound

the general order of society, and would introduce greater evils, than those, which it proposed to remedy. All congregations of social man must have regular professions, settled subordinations, and necessary differences of character. Without them, order would soon be converted into chaos, law would be confounded in anarchick misrule, and religion must fly from the savageness of atheism and execrations of impiety.

From an accurate survey of the various departments of knowledge, there seem to be several gradations of intellectual excellence. By what standard the variety of ranks shall be regulated into subordination, and by what principles they shall be confined to their determinate stations; what art shall be designated by the badge of inferior place, and what science shall be honoured with the sceptre of superiority, are curious questions, susceptible of imperfect solution, and promotive of no lasting advantage. But in the consideration of our moral and religious nature, the tendency of knowledge to exalt our affections to the Father of the universe, to teach us the practical duties of general life, and the social employments of necessary relation, is a principle of determination, by which the comparative attributes of particular sciences may be fixed, subject to no vagueness of reasoning, and to no oscillation of doubt. It will not indeed decide all controversies of this kind; because some parts of knowledge, from their intrinsic nature, cannot be subjected to this standard; and because there are other tests, by which the object of experiment is to be fixed, more conformable to its nature, and more demonstrative of its proportionate

worth, than the principle of moral utility.

If the misapplication of learning be subjected to regular consideration, how much time will be discovered to have been wasted on barren sciences by natural vigour of mind and by acquired predominance of intellect! Some have toiled for years in the hope of solving a perplexing question in metaphysics, and at last have left the difficulty, like a German game of chess, to be decided by their successors, who in turn have laboured with similar perseverance, and have experienced similar embarrassment. Regular has been the industry and numerous have been the years, which grammarians have employed in dissertations on the Greek accents; which the chymists have consumed on elements and calces; and which mathematicians have expended in developing the harmonies of curves, and in demonstrating the principles of diagrams. These pursuits indeed are not wholly useless. Such speculations have generated discoveries, numerous and important, which have illustrated the versatility of our minds, and exalted the rank of our nature; which have sometimes been the means of individual accommodation, and sometimes, the instruments of national aggrandizement. But by the law of our being such topics cannot reach us often, or detain us long. They cannot enter into the ordinary occurrences of life, nor guide us in the regulation of our conduct. Partial in their nature, and confined in their operations, the abstractions of intellect seldom come home to men's business and bosoms; they may challenge reverence to the object of their pursuits, and by their sublimity may

command admiration; but they never conciliate general regard by the frequent bestowal of petty benefits, or the regular communication of durable advantages.

If these remarks require authority for their support, we may produce the opinion of Milton. He is a writer so well known to the lovers of poetry, that his character is suggested by the mention of his name. So delicate were his perceptions of taste, and so exuberant was his fertility of fancy, so enlarged were the faculties of his mind, and so extensive was the range of his erudition, that it is hazardous to deny, what his sentiment establishes. Indeed, when we contemplate accurately the wonderful structure of Milton's mind, it is found so astonishing by the endowments of genius, and so opulent in the Peruvian treasures of literary acquisition, that in the ranks of learning I know not a character more venerable, or a reputation better consolidated. In the beginning of the eighth book of *Paradise Lost*, Milton introduces Adam inquiring about the motions of the sun, the firmament, and the stars, and suggesting to Raphael doubts and reasonings on the immobility of the earth, and the revolutions of the orbs. Raphael in reply admonishes Adam for asking about subjects with which he has no concern, and proposing questions which he cannot solve, and declares that great Architect has secrets which are not to be divulged, and that his works are humbly to be admired. He concludes with saying,

Solicit not thy thoughts with matters hid,
Leave them to God above, him serve,
and fear;
Of other creatures, as him pleases best,

Wherever placed, let him dispose: joy
thou
In what he gives thee, this Paradise
And thy fair Eve: Heaven is too high
To know what passes there; be lowly
wise,
Think only what concerns thee and thy
being.

All refined and abstract speculations are certainly, not to be wholly condemned. Much might be suggested in their favour by a mind of ingenuity; and if examined by some other standard, than that of general utility, their merits and advantages might be exhibited and determined: but when man is considered in his civil, moral, and social situations, the virtues of beneficence, justice, kindness, and hospitality, are the themes, which should occupy his mind; and the principles, which should regulate his conduct. They are so wide in their influence, and so frequent in their application, that every writer should endeavour to fix these great rules on the minds of his readers by beauty of illustration and cogency of argument. Books of most general and frequent use are those, which teach and impress the knowledge of our several duties, love to God and benevolence to man, which inculcate the beauty of kindness, the obligations of virtue, and the necessity of piety; these maxims, by their universality of operation, exercise our hearts and conduct every moment of our lives. By them we are continually tried, and consequently acquitted or condemned; the practice of them would make easy the course of our days, and the belief in them would consecrate the remembrance of our existence. In point of comparative utility, speculative researches become of little avail; they may perplex, dazzle, or confound, by complication of arrange-

ment, greatness of view, or difficulty of solution; but they rarely attract general reward, because they rarely extend the sphere of practical happiness. The ruin-threatening comet astonishes the spectator by the infrequency of its visit, the path of its glory, and the effulgence of its blaze; but the sun, in his revolutions, dispenses light and heat to all the

regions of the globe; visiting in his course the unwatered sands of Africa, and the untravelled deserts of America; affording, by an admirable economy, the means of subsistence to the far-off wanderer in the polar circle, and ripening for the Hindoo and the savage the luxuriant vegetation of tropical latitudes.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 31.

Nempe inter varias nutritur SILVA columnas.—Hor.

ANCIENT PRACTITIONERS OF MEDICINE.

THE Physician's Oath, as extant in Hippocrates, and taken by himself, cannot be unacceptable to the reader.

'I swear by Apollo the Physician, by Esculapius, by Hygia, and Panacea, and by all the Gods and Goddesses, that to the best of my power and judgment I will faithfully observe this Oath and Obligation. The master who has instructed me in the art I will esteem as my parent, and supply, as occasion may require, with the necessaries of life. His children I will regard as my own brothers; and if they desire to learn, I will instruct them in the same art without obligation or reward. The precepts, the explanations, and whatever else belongs to the art, I will communicate to my own children, to the children of my master, to such other pupils as have subscribed the Physician's Oath, and to no other person.

My patients shall be treated by me, to the best of my power and judgment, in the most salutary manner, without any injury or violence: neither will I be prevailed

upon to administer pernicious physic, or be the author of such advice myself; but will live and practice chastely and religiously.

Lithotomy I will not meddle with, but will leave it to the operators in that way. Whatever house I am sent for to, I will always make the patient's good my principal aim; avoiding, as much as possible all voluntary injury and corruption. And whatever I see or hear in the course of a cure, or otherwise relating to the affairs of life, if it ought to remain a secret, no person shall ever know it. May I be prosperous in life and business, and for ever honoured and esteemed by all men, as I observe and not confound this solemn oath; and may the reverse of all this be my portion if I violate it, and forswear myself!

Who can help admiring the humanity of this oath? What a pity that all civil governments which license quack-medicines do not oblige the Quacks themselves to take a similar oath, under the penalty of being hanged, should they be ever known voluntarily to break it!

Don Quixote.

It seems a problem in literature, that a nation the gravest and most seriously disposed by its natural temper and the gloomy despotism of its government and religion, should have produced the most lively work that ever was written. It abounds in original humour and exquisite satire. It displays the most copious invention, the most whimsical incidents and the keenest remarks on the follies of its cotemporaries. There is no book in whatever language that so eminently possesses the power of exciting laughter. The following anecdote may be recorded as an instance of it.

Philip III. being one day at a balcony of the palace at Madrid, observed a young student on the borders of the Mauzanara, with a book in his hand, who, as he read, exhibited the most violent marks of extacy and adniration, by his gestures and the repeated peals of laughter which he sent forth. Struck with the oddity of the sight, the king turned to one of his courtiers, and said, "Either that young man is out of his mind, or he is reading *Don Quixote*." The courtier descended for the purpose of satisfying the curiosity of the monarch, and discovered that it actually was a volume of *Cervantes*, which the youth was perusing with such delight.

JEREMY TAYLOR.

Few men have left behind them more imperishable monuments of learning, judgment, genius, and industry, than Jeremy Taylor. A venerable prelate, now living, did not indulge a bold figure when he styled Bishop Taylor "the *Shakespeare* of divinity." The encomium which Archbishop New-

come bestows on one of his works, may with justice be extended to all, when he characterizes it as "pious, eloquent and learned, and the emanations of a sublime genius." An Oxford antiquary, who lived nearer his time, pronounced the excellent discourses which he has written, enough of themselves to furnish a library, and predicted they would be famous to all generations, for the exactness of wit, profoundness of judgment, richness of fancy, clearness of expression, copiousness of invention, and general usefulness to all the purposes of a christian. In the delineation which his eloquent successor has given, of Bishop Taylor's prominent features, the reader may perhaps be disposed to attribute much of its high colouring to the partialities of friendship and personal esteem; but if the following tribute to departed excellence could be paid in a funeral discourse by his warmest admirer, when intentional exaggeration can only endanger the character of the encomiast, it must be allowed that in his natural and acquired excellences, in the qualities of his mind, and the gifts of his understanding, bishop Taylor far eclipsed the lustre of his cotemporaries, and equalled, if not surpassed, the most renowned of succeeding times. "To sum up all," in the animated language of Dr. Rust, "this great prelate had the honour of a gentleman, the eloquence of an orator, the fancy of a poet, the acuteness of a schoolmaster, the profoundness of a philosopher, the wisdom of a chancellor, the sagacity of a prophet, the reason of an angel, and the piety of a saint; he had devotion enough for a cloister, learning enough for an university, and wit enough for a college of

virtuosi, and had his parts and endowments been parcelled out among his poor clergy, that he left behind him, it would perhaps have made one of the best dioceses in the world."

THE HORSE.

THE ancient historians and biographers have not been satisfied with detailing the lives of illustrious men, but have also given us a minute description of the beauty, the grace, and the exploits of their horses; and there is more consistency between different writers, in their memoirs of this beautiful portion of animated nature, than in their memoirs of intelligent beings; for all the world will agree in their ideas of a rare, beautiful animal, but all the world differ in their opinions of illustrious men. The horse was held in great veneration in heroick ages, as if it had been formed, in the system of nature, the intermediate chain between intellectual and brute creation. Cæsar's horse, we are informed by Suetonius, possessed all the intrepidity of his master. Cæsar, who had a most profound veneration for Alexander, was charmed to possess one trait of resemblance with him. As Bucephalus was distinguished from ordinary horses by a head resembling that of a bull, he elected one which had human feet. The conqueror of Darius, as well as the conqueror of Pompey, were the only men who could mount their favourite coursers. Alexander built, in honour of his horse, the city of Bucephalia, and Cæsar erected a statue to his in the temple of Venus. Cæsar had another motive for honouring his horse. The astrologers of his time pretended that its birth presaged to him the empire of the world. Cæsar was of course attached to his

horse either from superstition or policy, as Sertorius was to his kid, and Mahomet to the pigeon which announced to him the visit of the angel Gabriel. Adrian also had a famous horse named Boristhenes, which he much honoured during his life, and at its death honoured it with a publick funeral, erected to it a monument, on which was inscribed an epitaph, written by himself. Verus, who shared with Marcus Aurelius the empire of Rome, carried still further his passion for his horse, which he called Avis. He gave it raisins and pistachio to eat; he kept him in an apartment hung round with purple, and whenever he was much delighted by his agility, he rewarded him with a purse of gold. None of the emperors, however, on this subject, equalled the extravagance of Caligula. In the life of this prince Suetonius informs us, that he built for his horse Incitatus a stable of marble, and that the trough, from which he ate, was of ivory; that many slaves were employed to attend upon him; that he often invited him to dine at his table; that he swore by his fortune, and that he even had it in contemplation to name him to the consulship.

IRISH LITERATURE.

It has often surprized me, says Arthur Browne in his Sketches, that a nation like the Irish, remarkable for its valour, and whose inhabitants, even down to the peasantry, are blessed with a peculiar acuteness of mind, and a characteristick turn of wit and pleasantry, should not have filled a greater space in the eye of mankind. The reason I believe is, that their wit and talent for ridicule are employed in depreciating one another, and their valour too often exhausts itself in idleness and riot.

In Scotland, if any man becomes an author, the whole nation joins in praising and elevating him ; but in Ireland to be a writer is almost sufficient to ensure mockery ; whoever takes up his pen, especially if it be in the province of belles lettres, whole tribes of Satirists, like the monkies of Africa, begin to chatter and grin at him, and employ every art to laugh him down : the consequence is, few write : the modest, who have talents, confine their display to conversation and to professional exertions, while the Satirists take care to do nothing but find fault, and never venture to expose themselves to criticisms, by writing any thing.

The Irish are so accustomed to be governed by England in every thing, taste as well as politicks, that they seem absolutely afraid to give the stamp of approbation to any thing in the first instance, hesitating whether it has merit or

not, until they see an English review. They long seemed unconscious of the merits of two considerable works written by sons of their own university, and hesitated to praise till the incense of fame arose to one from the literary altars of Cambridge ;* and an English Judge (Blackstone) had declared the other current coin.†

Swift was a Satirist exactly suited to their genius, with a power of ridicule too great not to subdue any one who laughed at him : but I am not quite sure, that if Pope had been an Irishman, he would have succeeded so well ; his pastorals might have afforded excellent food for pastime, and I am convinced Collins and Gray, and all your ode-makers, would have been laughed down, and discouraged in the infancy of their muse.

* Hamilton's Conic Sections.

† Sullivan's Lectures.

POETRY.

FURTHER EXTRACTS FROM "THE SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY," A POEM
BY REV. W. L. BOWLER.

[The introductory lines allude to the author's early poems.]

'AWARE a louder and a loftier strain !
Beloved-harp, whose tones have oft beguill'd.

My solitary sorrows, when I left
The scene of happier hours, and wander'd far,

A pale and drooping stranger ; I have sat
(While evening listen'd to the convent's bell)

On the wild margin of the Rhine, and woo'd

Thy sympathies, a victory of the world.
And I have found with thee and fellowship,

Yet always sweet, whene'er my languid hand

Pass'd carelessly o'er the responsive wires,

Whilst unambitious of the laurell'd meed

That crowns the gifted bard, I only ask'd

Some stealing melodies the heart might love,

And a brief sonnet to beguile my tears !

But I had hope that one day I might wake

Thy strings to higher utterance ; and now

Bidding adieu to glens, and woods, and streams,

And turning where, magnificent and vast,

Main Ocean bursts upon my sight, I strike,

Rapt in the theme on which I long have mus'd,—

Strike the loud lyre, and as the blue waves rock,

Swell to their solemn roar the deepning chords.

Lift thy indignant billows high, proclaim
Thy terrors, Spirit of the hoary seas !
I sing thy dread dominion, amid wrecks,
And storms, and howling solitudes ; to
Man,

Submitted : awful shade of Camoens
Bend from the clouds of Heav'n !

By the bold tones
Of minstrelsy, that o'er the unknown
surge
(Where never daring sail before was
spread)

Echo'd, and startled from his long repose
Th' indignant phantom of the stormy
Cape ;

Oh let me think now in the winds I hear
Thy animating tones while I pursue
With ardent hopes, like thee, my ven-
turous way.

And bid the seas resound my song !
And thou,

Father of Albion's streams, majestick
Thames,
Amid the glittering scene, whose long-
drawn waves

Goes unnoted ; yet with conscious
pride, beneath

The thronging vessels' shadows (nor
through scenes

More fair, the yellow Tagus, or the Nile,
That appears rarer, winds). Thou to the
strait

Shalt haply listen, that records the
might

Of Ocean, like a giant at thy feet
Vanquish'd, and yielding to thy gentler
state

The ancient sceptre of his dread domain !

[The story of Robert a Machin and
Anna d'Arfet, which Mr. Clark has
related as sober history, is not well
managed in this poem. The lovers
are thus described in the island.]

' Now evening, breathing richer odours
sweet,

Came down : a softer sound th' circling
seas,

The ancient woods resounded, while
the dove,

Her murmurs interposing, tenderness
Awak'd ; yet more endearing, in the
hearts

Of those who sever'd far from human
kind,

Woman and man, by vows sincere
betroth'd,
Heard but the voice of Nature. The
still moon

Arose—(they saw it not—check was to
check

Inclin'd, and unawares a stealing tear
Witness'd how blissful was that hour,
that seem'd

Not of the hours that time could count,
A kiss

Stole on the listening silence ; never yet
Here heard : they trembled, e'en as if
the Pow'r

That made the world, that planted the
first pair

In Paradise, amid the garden walk'd—
This since the fairest garden that the
world

Has witness'd, by the feebing sons of
Greece

Woman and man, by vows sincere
betroth'd,

Heard but the voice of Nature. The
still moon

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Greece

Hesperian nam'd, who feign'd the
watchful guard

Of the scold'd dragon, and the golden
fruit.'

[The lines upon the lady's tomb have
been admir'd, and we shall therefore
copy them, without feeling any admi-
ration ourselves.]

INSCRIPTION.—ANNA D'ARFET:

' O'er my poor Anna's lowly grave
No dirge shall sound, no knell shall
ring,

But angels, as the high pines wave,
Their half-heard "wiserrers" sing !

No flow'rs of transient bloom at eve
The maidens on the turf shall strew ;
Nor sigh, as the sad spot they leave,
Sweets to the sweet ! a long adieu !

But in this wilderness profound,
O'er her the dove shall build her nest,
And Ocean swell with softer sound,
A requiem to her dreams of rest !

Ah ! when shall I as quiet be,
When not a friend, or human eye,
Shall mark beneath the mossy tree
The spot, where ne'er forgotten lie ?

To kiss her name on the cold stone,
If all that now on earth I crave ;
For in this world I am alone—
O lay me with her in the grave.

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For in this world I am alone—
O lay me with her in the grave.

THE BOSTON REVIEW,

FOR

SEPTEMBER, 1807.

Liberum vana regi et quam diligentissime potui detectis, quæ committenda, quæ emittenda, arbitraret. Nam ego dicere verum assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxima laudari merentur. Plin.

ART. 47.

(Continued.)

A Voyage to the eastern part of Terra Firma, or the Spanish Main, in South-America, during the years 1801, 1802, 1803, and 1804, &c. &c. By F. Depons. Vol. II. pp. 382

THE labour of reviewing this valuable work is lessened, and the gratification of our readers increased, by the abundant quotations we necessarily make. The second volume commences with an account of the civil and military economy of the colony. The system of preserving subordination has been the same with all the Europeans, except the Spaniards; but the difference may be less than this author pretends. The privileges of Spanish colonists are infinitely inferior to those enjoyed by our fathers in these colonies; yet to the little restraint on the inhabitants this author attributes their loyalty. But the indulgence of the Spanish character is a better guarantee, than their gratitude.

The political divisions of the Spanish colonial dominions is not, perhaps, generally understood.

The whole of the Spanish possessions in America is divided into four vice-royalties: Mexico, Peru, Buenos Ayres, and Santa-Fé; and six capitanezas: Porto-Rico, Ha-

vana, Caraccas, Guatimala, Chili, and the Philippine Islands in Asia.

p. 11.

On the Grand Council of the Indies, the writer bestows the most honourable praise, which we are willing to believe fairly deserved.

‘Its integrity so effectually disconcerts intrigue that every Spaniard, wealthy and powerful, who in his cause or his pretensions has more to hope from favour than from justice, directs all his efforts to avoid the jurisdiction of the council of the Indies. His only hope of success rests on bringing his cause to the decision of the ministers whom it is incomparably more easy to deceive.’

p. 15.

In the note the mistake of the Abbe Millot is exposed, whose general character of Spanish justice is certainly true, however inapplicable to the administration of the Grand Council.

The homage I render to the council of the Indies is entitled to more consideration, when the misfortunes of St. Domingo obliged me to pass into the Spanish dominions, I arrived with a prepossession against the council, produced by the works of celebrated writers, particularly the Abbe Millot, who in his political and military memoirs says: “there are abuses in all the councils of Spain, and in that of the Indies more than in any other; instead of punishing malversations, they support the culpable in proportion to the presents received from them.” Der-

ing twelve successive years that I have been within the limits of their jurisdiction, I have seen cause to applaud all their decisions: nor can I cite a single instance of corruption or of favour. The oppressed, whatever may be the credit of his oppressor, regards his cause as gained, when he is certain that it will be carried to the council of the Indies. It is necessary to have resided among the Spaniards of America, to know the veneration in which this august tribunal is held.'

Ample proof is found of our author's knowledge of the purity of Spanish officers in no inferior rank.

'I request the reader not to infer from my opinion of the tribunals of residence my confidence in their efficacy. My homage is immediately and solely addressed to the wisdom of the law. I resign all criticism on its operation to those, who know the seductive influence of Plutus over the feeble and pliant Themis.'

p. 25.

Even external character is not properly consulted.

'By the Spanish laws a judge is forbidden to preside in causes of his father, his children, his kindred, his family, persons of his household or who dwell with him, a female whom he is desirous to marry, or to take in concubinage, and all the family of such female, his capital enemy, or him whom he has maltreated, and their families.'

p. 33.

The general remark on personal insecurity is strictly just.

The Spaniards have great consideration for the life of a man, and an absolute contempt for his liberty. The most atrocious crimes are required for his condemnation to death: the most trivial suspicion suffices to deprive him of his freedom. Every man, who possesses the slightest degree of authority, has a right to imprison him who has none. The smallest debt, whatever may be its nature, plunges

into prison the debtor, who is unable to discharge it. It is true that, if no property belonging to him can be discovered, and he makes oath that he has none, he obtains his release, after whole months of confinement. In every accusation, whether calumnious or not, they commence with imprisonment. No proof of crime is necessary for incarceration; but to obtain enlargement, innocence must furnish proof that the suspicion was unjust, and the grounds on which it originated false.'

p. 54.

The military state of the country is less amusing, but equally important. The author, in his narration, calls Sir Francis Drake a pirate, against which we earnestly protest. There are some strongly fortified places on the shore of this colony, as in all other Spanish dominions. We might indeed infer their debasement of spirit from their wonderful improvements and use of intrenchments. The regular force over this immense region, amounts to ten thousand men, and the militia are not much more numerous. So many are the exemptions, that nobody is enrolled, but those who could never be depended on.

The sixth chapter explains the religious organization. Here is the source of all the impolitick principles, which influence other departments of the state.

Three tribunals of the inquisition, or holy office, which have their sessions at Mexico, Lima, and Carthagena of the Indies, are inexorable defenders of the faith in all Spanish America.

p. 74.

Every bookseller is compelled to furnish yearly to the Inquisition his catalogue of books, and must even have a catalogue of those forbidden by the holy office. Particular permissions may be granted to read prohibited authors,

'Formerly it sufficed for a book to contain a single proposition of questionable orthodoxy, a single equivocal maxim, to provoke its entire prohibition. At present it is thought sufficient to suppress the vicious or suspected part. This operation is called *expurgar*, (purifier.) In this case, they obliterate the offensive passages of the book, and with those exceptions, permit it to be reprinted or read.'

p. 78.

'Then follows a long list of French works, absolutely proscribed. The bounds of damnable heterodoxy have been alternately enlarged and contracted.

'Nothing evinces more clearly the zeal of the inquisition, than the number of works it has condemned within two centuries. The catalogue of prohibited books, printed in 1790, contains the names and surnames of five thousand four hundred and twenty authors, reprobated by the tribunal; not to mention the infinity of anonymous productions which have experienced the same fate.'

p. 81.

'Then follows the list, which we cannot read without indignation. Here are the names of Beccaria, Boileau, La Fontaine, Ganganelli, Montesquieu, Racine, Marmontel, Puffendorf, Millot, Vattel, *Mably*, *Fenelon*, in short of all such, as might rouse a spirit of inquiry in ethics or legislation. Addison, and other hereticks, we could only suppose, are excluded! We know an American gentleman, who, going to a Spanish colony, reported, as he was required, the books in his trunk, among which the Spectator was one, which was seized. As the custom-house attendants, and not the holy brothers of the Inquisition, had possession, it was probably restored for a proper consideration.

From the present degeneracy of

the religious character of that country, it is refreshing to our spirits to revert to the days of the early missionaries. On them the author bestows his eulogy in the most lively manner.

'The men who thus readily sacrificed themselves to the propagation of the faith, must have been well convinced that an abode of happiness and of delights, is the eternal recompence of the just! They must have been fully satisfied of the nothingness of this world, who thus exchanged the pleasures of retirement for a life of agony prolonged. Well did they earn the palm of martyrdom—the only incitement to a vocation which occasions us to shudder whilst we admire. Virtuous anchorites! to whom society is indebted for so many men, who, but for you, would still dispute the prey with the ferocious beasts—to whom religion owes so many proselytes, who would still have been plunged in the gloom of pagan darkness—receive my homage: it is pure, as your labours were painful and meritorious.'

p. 107.

Of the modern ministers of the gospel we must learn something.

'They are forbidden to exact any compensation from the Indians, either for administration of the sacraments, or for any other ecclesiastick function. The prohibition is not directly violated, but its spirit is completely eluded by the sale, at a thousand per cent profit, of rosaries, scapularies, and little images of the virgin and of the saints. The poor Indian is perpetually menaced with the wrath of God, till he has purchased some of all the different kinds for sale by the missionaries. This imposition, apparently so trivial, is repeated sufficiently often in the course of a year, to become an object of importance and of speculation.'

p. 116.

Pious donations have begun how-

ever among the whites to lose a little of their former reverence.

'People are almost convinced that they may venture to appear before God without having ruined their relatives to found prebends or to enrich convents; they begin to believe that, we will be judged rather by our virtues, than our prodigalities; but what is given is given;—the convents and churches must, therefore, possess the purest and most unembarrassed riches of Terra-Firma.' p. 119.

Next in the train of ecclesiastical abuses come the Asylums.

'The popes imagined that they increased the respectability of the church and its ministers, by elevating its temples above the laws, and rendering them inaccessible to the magistrate: as if justice and the laws did not emanate from divine precept. These considerations, irreconcilable with publick safety, and still more incompatible with our ideas of divine justice, embarrassed many consciences: particularly among those who confounded the light of faith with the blindness of credulity. Reason revolted from the belief that God would protect in this world, the same crimes to which he had attached eternal punishment in the future. But in those days of human infatuation, it was found more convenient to believe than to reason.' p. 123.

Their jurisdiction is now happily narrowed, but it should be extinguished. That unhallowed ground should be ploughed, and harrowed, and sowed with salt. The reflections of Mr. Depons are admirable, and his language ardent.

Chap. 7. treats of agriculture, the cure of cacao, sugar, coffee, tobacco, &c. of which the details are very important, and, we doubt not correct; but we cannot extract them. On page 183 we note a mistake of the translator. The

author is made to say, that coffee is cultivable within the extent of sixty leagues crossed by the line. For leagues read degrees. Frost is the boundary of coffee plantations. Another gross error, which cannot be attributed to Mr. Depons, is on page 198. Grenada in Spain, between twenty-seven and twenty-eight degrees, &c. For twenty. r. thirty. Indeed, we are well satisfied, that the translator was unfit for his office. French idioms occur so often as to convince us, he knew little of the English; and we fear he has not acquired much more of the French language. So valuable a work should have been better treated.

At the close of the chapter we find again the judicious reflections of an enlarged mind.

'It is a matter of astonishment that, in the most beautiful country in nature, where every thing concurs to promote luxuriance of vegetation, the plantations should be so inconsiderable in magnitude.—A planter, whose income amounts to four or five thousand dollars, is considered rich. There cannot be enumerated twenty plantations in all the province of Caraccas, which produce a greater revenue. It is not, however, that the property is too much divided. It is rare to see a plantation, of which one tenth part of its extent is cultivated: It is a cheerless and painful sight, to behold the labour of three successive centuries crowned with such pitiful results. On a soil two hundred times less spacious, incomparably less watered and less fertile, and with not more than one half the white population, the French have succeeded in raising at St. Domingo ten times more produce, than is raised at this day in the vast provinces of Caraccas.' p. 244.

The causes are, the universal laziness of the Spaniards, disuse of

alienation of property, estates in mortmain, absurd regulation of plantations, and non-importation of negroes.

The eighth chapter discusses the commercial system of Spain. Nearly a century and a half passed before any connexion of this kind subsisted between these colonies and the mother country; nor would they then have been incited to trade, but by the intervention of their Dutch neighbours at Curra-coa. An attempt was then made to confine the channels of commerce to the parent country; but it was miserably unsuccessful. The trade was wholly enjoyed by foreigners, till the company of Guipuscoa obtained the exclusive right in 1734. The conduct of this corporation was acceptable to the crown, and profitable to its members; but the all pervading infection spread among them at last.

'This original delicacy of the company experienced a fatal alteration. The moderation of its prices, its scruples on the quality of articles, the mildness and forethought of its agents, all disappeared almost at the same time. A part of its profits were employed in tampering with the assembly, destined to curb its capidity, or rather, in paralysing its action by gaining the chief into its interests; it carried the forgetfulness of its duties, the abuse of its credit, to such a degree, as to carry on, with the Dutch of Curra-coa; the contraband, which it had pledged itself to its sovereign to destroy. By these means the planters were injured, and the mother country deprived of the trade, which the company carried on thus shamefully with strangers.' p. 278.

The commerce was then made free. But there is little intercourse between the different Spanish colonies.

During the war, which followed on the last alliance of France with Spain, it was found necessary to open their ports to foreigners; but as the whole trade was instantly, by this measure, transferred to strangers, of whom our countrymen had the chief share, the Spanish merchants procured a repeal of that decree.

'The courier or packet, bearing this fatal order, arrived at Lagaira, and published it in the month of April following; but, fortunately for Havana, the same vessel was captured by the English, in its passage from the coast of Terra-Firma to the island of Cuba; and, in consequence of this lucky accident, foreign commerce was not there interrupted. The prosperity, which resulted, has frequently excited a regret at Terra-Firma, that the vessel had not been captured immediately on her departure from Spain.

'The numerous promises, made to government by the Spanish merchants, to regain the exclusive commerce with America, produced no other effects, than expeditions which increased the means of the enemy, and occasioned bankruptcies, which suspended all commercial relations with America. Scarcely one vessel in six sent from Spain to the West-Indies, ever returned.

'Even the correspondence of government was unable to penetrate through the English cruizers, which were encountered every where. During the whole of 1801, only a single courier or packet from Europe reached the Havana, where they regularly arrive every month.' p. 310.

'Such is the wavering and miserable policy of Spain, that her subjects rejoice, when their laws are not promulgated! The same perversity pervades the operations of subordinate officers, as of national ministers.

Upon the declaration of war by France against Spain, naval forces were dispatched to the gulf of Mexico. A squadron was sent in 1793. It proceeded directly to Porto-Cavello, where it continued a sufficient time to lose a considerable number of men by the pestilential miasmas. After a station of six months, it crossed as rapidly as possible from Porto-Cavello to Fort Dauphin, where a part remained; the rest went to Havana. In the commencement of 1796, the whole squadron, composed of seven ships of the line and ten frigates, collected at Havana, where, notwithstanding the rupture with England, it waited as patiently for peace, as if it had been a stranger to war. In the mean time, it was very possible for this considerable force to have disputed the dominion of the sea, since there had not been, during the war, more than six English vessels in the gulf of Mexico, as well for the defence of Jamaica, as to protect the commerce at sea.

p. 311.

In the next paragraph we must correct an inaccuracy. The fleet from Jamaica is not composed of the vessels from other English islands. The outward bound fleet amounts to about three hundred sail, but to and from Jamaica alone not more than one hundred and fifty are employed.

We now come to the most interesting phenomenon in the present history of this colony, the trade with enemies. On these subjects we are charmed with the author's boldness, and confident in his veracity.

During the war which terminated in the year 10, of the French republic, the Spaniards of America had not only the privilege of frequenting English ports, but each vessel had also a safe-conduct or passport from the English admirals, by means of which they were respected, protected, and even se-

costed by English cruisers. The safe-conduct answered only for one voyage; but was renewed without difficulty: at first for the sum of eighteen dollars, but the price augmented in proportion to the demand. No other formality was required than the exhibition of this passport on entering an English harbour, and to all armed vessels of that nation encountered at sea. The Spanish flag alone received this protection. No such secret understandings were attached to the tri-coloured flag. Every French vessel was a good prize for the English; but every Spanish vessel was not.

p. 315.

Such is the admirable policy of the English.

There have been counted in the road of Kingston, eighty Spanish vessels, all under their proper flag; in that of Curracoa sixty, and at Trinidad more than forty. This commerce occupied above four hundred vessels, which cleared out in Spanish ports, for some French or neutral colony, whither they never went. On their return, they presented French papers, the falsehood of which, though evident, was never either punished or investigated.

p. 316.

The author assures us, 'there was no Spanish possession in America, where the contraband was not practised.' With Jamaica, Curracoa, Trinidad, Surinam, this trade is almost incalculable. But does the government sleep, while such frauds are practised? No; the officers of government sleep soundly. By sea and land, guarda costas and patroles are payed for vigilance; but much better paid for negligence. *Sunt certa fisciada.* The nation pays niggardly, and the smugglers well.

The modes of effecting this trade are, we presume, well explained. The facts are as wonderful, as the principles are perverse.

'No Spaniard, rich or poor,' says Depons, 'refuses protection to the illicit trade.'

'A vessel, driven by a storm on the Spanish coasts, is robbed and plundered by the country people, if the cargo is covered by legal papers; they succour and protect it, if contraband.

'In the first case, they save the effects to appropriate them to themselves; in the second, to hide them, to keep them from the revenue, and to restore them to the proprietor. The government, which in vain opposes to this opinion the severest laws, invokes incessantly the authority of the church, to make this considered as a sin, which nobody will consider as a fault. Decrees of the king renewed and published at intervals in homilies, order the bishops to announce to the faithful, that the contraband is a mortal sin, which communicates to those who favour it, and to those who buy or trade in merchandises of contraband; that denunciation is a duty, the neglect of which would be a heinous sin. In short, the confessors are bound to refuse absolution to every smuggler, who does not restore to the king the duties, of which he has defrauded him. There is no time worse employed than that, which the priest spends in making this publication; for there is no act in the whole ecclesiastick liturgy, which makes less impression on the Spaniard.' p. 529.

This is a true picture of a Spanish colonist's morals.

From the establishment of the consular assembly much was expected; but where individuals are all indolent, corporations must be inert.

I hoped that the examination of the first operations of the consulative assembly would have furnished additional food and excitement to my enthusiasm. But, having with difficulty procured the

means of learning its labours in favour of agriculture, I found they consisted merely in having demanded, in 1797, of enlightened cultivators, memoirs on the kind of cultivation peculiar to each of them, which remained for four years, in the hands of commissioners appointed to examine them, and to render a general report, without the same having ever been made or demanded. Desirous of viewing these memoirs, I found them at length, covered with dust, at the house of Count de la Grange, one of the commissioners. He lent them to me with uncommon facility. After having read them, I returned them into his hands, and I dare assert, that centuries will elapse before they will be again displaced.

'Can a people thus nameless justifiably tax the laws or the government with the slowness or the inability of its progress in the arts and sciences? What could the king of Spain do more praiseworthy, than to order the citizens to contribute their information to publick welfare? Men, whose torpid and sluggish dispositions prefer the repose and indolence of poverty, to the activity of fortune, should never complain of misfortune or indigence.'

p. 344.

ART. 54.

The Picture of New-York, or the traveller's guide through the commercial metropolis of the United States. By a Gentleman of this city. New-York, published by I. Riley & Co. 1807. 12mo. pp. 224.

We are not disposed to discourage the publication of any works, which may tend to correct the topographical or geographical accounts of our country. So few have been published, that it is much more difficult for an American to learn accurately the internal state and productions of his native land,

than those of any part of civilized Europe.

As a first attempt, the present may not be considered an uninteresting sketch, though the matter is not very novel, nor the researches very profound. In some parts the work resembles a directory, or mercantile diary, more than a picture; but the topographical sketches of the neighbourhood of New-York contain some pleasing information, which may be of use to the traveller and the man of business. We cannot, however, but wish the work were condensed into a smaller space, which might be done, in our opinion, without injury or loss. But the present is the age of book-making, and the republic of letters is overwhelmed with tomes of ponderous size, of which the useful matter might be comprised into a six-penny pamphlet.

We have cast our eyes over the volume for the purpose of selecting a short specimen of the work; and recollecting the pleasure we have derived from walks on the Battery and in the Park, we give them to our readers, as faint outlines of the living pictures:

'The battery is an open space at the south-western extremity of the city, situated between State-street and the bay. It is so called, because part of its space was, in the early settlement of the city, occupied by Fort James, and much of the remainder was a battery to strengthen the fort on the water-side; It is reserved for that purpose to the present day.

Military parades are frequently held there. On the 4th of July, which is the national anniversary, and on several other days, there is usually a martial and brilliant exhibition of the regiments of militia and the other uniform troops upon the ground. The walk is open to all the citizens. Here they may

enjoy the fresh breeze from the bay, and the shade of the summer every afternoon of the summer, and receive refreshments after a sweltering day. In the morning, the prospect of the Jersey shore, of Staten-Island, of Long-Island, and of Fort Jay, and the other small islands, of the ships at anchor, and of the vessels passing and repassing, is at once variegated and delightful. And if more gratification is desired, musick, ice-creams and other delicacies, are provided in the evening, at Mr. Corrie's publick garden, not far from the centre of this exquisite place of recreation.

'The park is a piece of inclosed ground situated between Broadway and Chatham-streets, in front of the new City-hall. The area consists of about four acres, planted with elms, planes, willows, and catalpas, and the surrounding foot-walk is encompassed with sows of poplars. This beautiful grove, in the middle of the city, combines in a high degree, ornament with health and pleasure; and to enhance the enjoyments of the place, the English and French reading-room, the Shakespeare gallery, and the theatre, offer ready amusement to the mind; while the mathematical hall, the London hotel, and the New-York gardens present instant refreshment to the body. Though the trees are but young, and of few years growth, the park may be pronounced an elegant and improving place.'

ART. 55.
Celsi Synopsis, Editio quarta, Hanc novam editionem, quae lectio est optimas, diligentius conspectam curavit Lucius M. Sargius, Botanicus, Nov-Angliae, Prof. Belcher & Armstrong. 1807.

This pleasant collection of trifles is extracted from the latter part of vol. 6 of the Poetae Minores by John Christian Wernsdorff, printed at Helmstat 1799.

German paper is very bad, and we therefore purchase at a low price one hundred and seventy pages of the middle of Symposius: the American editor has then done no less service by reducing the work to its present size, than by publishing it on fine paper. His greatest praise however (and how few among us aspire to it) is, that there is hardly a letter, or a point, misplaced, or omitted. On page 33 for *habiti* read *habet*.

Mr. Sargent presents us with a neat Latin preface, in which, abridging the wordy dissertation of the German editor, he informs us, that several Greek writers of Enigmas are recorded by Athenæus, and that many remnants of their wit have come down to our days; but a single poem of Ausonius is the only example of that style among the Romans, except these *jocularia* of Symposius. Of the edition of Wernsdorf he expresses his respect, but not without limitation: *ejus editio, prioribus longe emendatior et auctior, atque premio pens. satisfarivo committata, est multo magis quam priores, &c. to medaliam habet.*

Factitious honour may have heretofore been rendered to this work, as it has been attributed to the venerable Lactantius, the most eloquent of the fathers of the Christian church;—but so little reason does there appear for it, that much interest can never again be excited by the circumstance, though the verses hold their place in the Leipzig and Elipond editions of this divine.

This Catalogue of editions of Symposius is ample, and shews before us the various readings abundantly, from the inexhaustible German mine. In tedious labor,

For the titles Mr. Sargent deserves praise. We agree with his

opinion of Miles Podagricus *σῖγμα valde podagricum.* In his reference to Casar's Commentaries, Del. Gal. lib. 5. cap. 13, the editor mistakes, by following Taciolatus. It should be cap. 10.

This pamphlet may be amusing and useful to young men, in the early part of their Latin studies, and to such we strongly recommend it; and even within the proud walls of the university some might be found, whose skill would hardly solve some of these riddles.

ART. 56.

Essays, moral, economical, and political. By Francis Bacon, baron of Verulam, viscount St. Albans, and lord high chancellor of England. First American edition. 12mo. Boston, Oliver & Munroe. 1807.

The essays of Lord Bacon, which Johnson regrets he was not earlier acquainted, need not our praise. We shall rejoice if this neat, and, as far as we have examined, apparently accurate edition of them, should contribute to make them more popular.

ART. 57.

A discourse, delivered before the members of the Portsmouth Female asylum, on Lord's-day, Aug. 9, 1807. By Abbot, pastor of a church in Beverly, Portsmouth, S. Sewall.

We have often puzzled ourselves in conjecturing the motive, which may be supposed to influence a man of sense to publish an occasional sermon. It cannot be the hope of fame, one would think, for who ever reads a charity sermon, except his nerves are so out of order as to require an anodyne? And yet we can hardly ascribe it to the

noblest motive of a taste of usefulness, for even the self complacency of an author cannot conceal from himself that on such a topic, he is adding nothing to what all the world already knows, and that every thing he can say has been at least as well said a thousand times before. We will go no farther with our conjectures, lest we should be led to imagine that this propensity to publish may proceed from a childish vanity of seeing one's self in print, from which we would willingly believe our clergy to be exempt.

In these remarks we express our general opinion on the subject, though we would by no means be understood to say, that there are no instances to which they will not apply. The sermon before us we doubt not was heard and deserved to be heard with much pleasure, but we must think, that the world would have lost little, if the author had resisted the solicitations of his friends and forbore to give it to the press.

ARTICLE 23.

(Concluded.)

Memoirs of Dr. Joseph Priestley, to the year 1796, written by himself; with a continuation to the time of his decease, by his son, Joseph Priestley, and observations on his writings, by Thomas Cooper, President Judge of the 6th district of Pennsylvania, and the Rev. William Christie, Northumberland, Penn. printed by J. Binns. 1805.

THE Appendix No. 4, contains an account of Dr. Priestley's writings on miscellaneous literature. It has been said, that he found it a convenient way of learning a science, to undertake to teach it, or to make a book or treatise upon

the particular subject of his studies. The testimony and the practice of other learned men and successful students, are in favour of such a method of research. The attempt to explain and state our knowledge must naturally bring its accuracy and extent to the test. Dr. R.'s employment as a teacher required him to compose elementary treatises. In these he certainly succeeded. His works of this kind are distinguished by a simplicity of statement, and aptness of illustration, and plainness of style. He never forgets that the pupil is to be supposed ignorant of the subject on which instruction is given.

He wrote an English grammar, which was published just before that of Dr. Lowth, and, after several editions, was superseded by the latter; its author, Mr. Cooper observes, having at that time (in the year 1772) more literary reputation than Dr. P. The editor says that the last edition of this grammar was in 1778. We have seen a new edition, corrected and published, London, 1789, by the Rev. Mr. Bretland, of Exeter, entitled 'the Rudiments of English Grammar, adapted to the use of schools, with examples of English composition.' He thinks the publick obliged by his getting a work reprinted, which he says has been always justly celebrated for the peculiar simplicity of its plan, and though frequently inquired for, was no longer to be procured. What peculiarity there is in this work, consists principally in respecting the distribution and technical terms of the Latin grammar; an abstractly, which the author admits had much gone out of fashion; but were still so much retained as to injure the uniformity and usefulness of English grammars. *40* *1805* *re-acted* *(he says) heavy,*

think, sufficient to convince any person, that we have no more business with a *future tense* in our language, than we have with the whole system of Latin moods and tenses; because we have no modification of our verbs to correspond to it; and if we had never heard of a future tense in some other language, we should no more have given a particular name to the combination of the verb with the auxiliary *shall* or *will*, than to those that are made with the auxiliaries *do*, *have*, *can*, *must*, or any other. He gives his opinion on English composition as an exercise of schools.

‘To obviate this inconvenience, [ignorance of our mother tongue] we must introduce into our schools *English grammar*, *English compositions*, and frequent *English translations* from authors in other languages. The common objection to English compositions, that it is requiring brick to be made without straw, (boys not being supposed to be capable of so much reflection as is necessary to treat any subject with propriety), is a very frivolous one; since it is so very easy to contrive a variety of exercises, introductory to themes upon moral and scientific subjects; in many of which the whole attention may be employed upon language only; and from thence youth may be led on in a regular series of compositions, in which the transition from language to sentiment may be as gradual and easy as possible.’

There is a copious analysis of Dr. P.’s lectures on the theory of language and universal grammar, printed at Warrington, in 1762, and delivered to the students, but never fully published.

The lectures on *oratory*, and *criticisms*, have been much commended as exhibiting an ingenious

and successful application of Hartley’s theory of association to the phenomena of taste. The lectures of the same author, on *history* and *general policy*, make a valuable and pleasing introduction to the study of history. A new edition of this work has been published in Philadelphia, with the addition of a chapter on the constitution of the United States. An extract is given, in which the doctrine of the cosmopolitan statesmen is defended, that war is never justifiable to secure the exercise of commercial rights; because it is favouring one class of the citizens more than another; especially the merchant more than the farmer. If the merchant finds his business a losing one, (say they), let him give it up, or do something else, or do nothing; but not urge his country to hazard her blood and treasure to enable him to prosecute his trade. We believe this book contains no other principle advanced as a state maxim, so weak and so pernicious as this. The interest of the parts is the interest of the whole. The farmer is directly concerned in the protection and prosperity of the merchant. If force may never be employed to defend commercial rights, it is vain and ridiculous to pretend to have them. It is not the justice of our claims, but the power to enforce them, and to repel aggression, which gives them value. Till nations have agreed upon some common judge to decide their differences, there must be occasional war.

The chart of biography is a map invented by Dr. P., which shows by a glance of the eye the duration of any eminent individual’s life, and that of all his contemporaries. It has been engraved in this country, and deserves to make a part of the furniture of every literary room.

The chart of history, an improvement on a French plan, exhibits at one view the most important general facts of history, in connection with one another, and is a good historical compend for occasional reference.

After several fugitive pieces on politics; a vindication of Dr. Franklin; and an accusation of Mr. Burke, for not continuing the friend of Dr. P. to the last, even after he had espoused the French revolution, we come to the *theological* part of the book.

No. 5 is a summary of Dr. P.'s *religious opinions*. It is well known that Dr. P. was at the head of the sect denominated Unitarians, or Socinians, who profess to believe that Jesus of Nazareth was a man, divinely commissioned as a teacher of truth and righteousness; and that having been publickly crucified by his enemies, he was raised from the dead the third day. They believe that he was nothing more than a man, possessed of extraordinary powers, and invested with a particular commission, and that he had no existence previous to his birth. The summary under review is, we believe, as far as it goes, a just account of the Doctor's opinions upon most subjects of theology. He believed in *original sin*; that the system of the universe is the best that could have been devised by infinite goodness and wisdom, and executed by infinite power; that the moral and physical evil, observable in the system, are necessary parts of a great plan, all tending ultimately to produce the greatest sum of happiness upon the whole; not only with respect to the system, in general, but to each individual, according to the station he occupies. This system, (he considered) implies the necessary dependence of

every action and event on some other preceding, as its cause, till we arrive at the Deity himself, the first, the great, the efficient cause of all.

He conceived, that the light of nature afforded but imperfect evidence of a future state; and rested it principally on positive revelation. He believed in the occasional interposition of the Deity from the beginning, by teachers supernaturally endowed, to give a true knowledge of God and of men's duties to him and one another, and to enforce them by authority and motives. He received the books of the Old and New Testament, as containing the history of these dispensations of religion, and the circumstances attending them, so far as it is necessary for us to be made acquainted with the facts. He admitted that there is convincing evidence of the accuracy and fidelity of the writers of these books, and their substantial truth, though he conceived that they had suffered in passages of no great moment by frequent transcription and interpolation; and that the authors might commit mistakes, and differ from each other in things of minor import, not affecting the objects of their mission. He rejected the doctrines of original sin, atonement; and of election and reprobation, as taught by the system of Calvinistick theology. Future punishment he considered to be of that sort, which a parent inflicts on a child, in its nature and operation corrective; and therefore he did not admit the eternal duration of future punishment. His opinion respecting the soul, of course led him to reject the doctrine of an intermediate state. In church government he was an Independent. He believed the keeping of the sabbath to be incumbent on all!

christians; was a friend to publick worship, infant baptism, observance of the Lord's supper, and family prayer. His religious sentiments, whether true or false, appeared to be in him a source of comfort and hope, and the foundation of a highly pious and virtuous temper and behaviour. A future state was to him a subject of firm and joyful expectation.

Appendix, No 6, is a review of Dr. Priestley's numerous theological works, with occasional extracts, &c. expressive of his sentiments and opinions, and observations on his character and conduct as a christian minister.

Those, who wish to know what he published on these subjects, may consult the catalogue of all his works, at the end of the volumes under review. To give an opinion upon the value and importance, the good or evil of his labours in this department of knowledge; to say how far the world are interested in the perusal and study, or the neglect and disregard of his writings upon these subjects, is not necessary nor proper. We think, however, that a divine at least ought to include several of his theological publications in his course of reading. He wrote much on the evidences as well as doctrines of the Christian revelation. The book, entitled *Instances of Natural and Revealed Religion*, in 2 vols. 8vo. is designed to give a general view of religious truth and duty, suited to instruct and interest common christians. It consists of the lectures, which the author delivered to the young persons of his congregation. The greater part of the work is free from his peculiarities of thinking, and is adapted to satisfy persons of different sentiments. His *Discourses on the Evidences*

of Divine Revelation, 9 vols. 8vo. delivered in Philadelphia, were heard with attention by a respectable assembly; and state the argument for the truth of the scripture history with clearness and force. The defence of the reality of the miracles wrought by Moses, and of the history of supernatural events in the Old Testament is able and satisfactory. The Mosack history of the Jewish scriptures generally, he treated with much more respect, than Dr. Geddes in England, and professor Eichorn in Germany; one or both of whom passed for orthodox upon other points; and with more than other critics and commentators, who profess an entire belief in the New Testament and the divine mission of Christ. Dr. P.'s *Discourse on the Evidence of the Resurrection* has been called one of the best argumentative sermons in the English language. It states the proof for the fact, in a very lucid and satisfactory manner, and answers objections with great ingenuity. He says, 'it appears that the circumstances attending the resurrection of Jesus were so ordered by divine providence, that it is not in the power of man to imagine any change in them; that, according to the known laws of evidence, would make it more credible than it is with respect to distant ages.' 'If he has been able to make good this position in the discourse, it must be valuable indeed. If we have all the evidence which we can have, that Jesus rise from the dead, surely we have enough to beat down all the strongholds of infidelity, and put an end to doubt or cavil.'

The *Letters to a philosophical unbeliever*, 2 vols. 8vo. deserve the attention of all, who have difficulties on the subject of natural

religion. The Comparison of the institutions of Moses with those of the Hindoos and other oriental nations; of the doctrine of heathen philosophy with christianity; his *Answers to Paine and to Volney*, are certainly works to be read with benefit and pleasure.

The controversy with Dr. Linn, in which the latter was thought by his friends and by the orthodox publick to have acquired honour, began from a little pamphlet of Dr. P. entitled, *Socrates and Jesus compared*; written with a view to confute the Deists.

The *Traacts in defence of Unitarianism* and of doctrines connected with it, make no small part of Dr. P.'s writings.

In the first place the argument is compressed into small books and pamphlets; one 'a general view of the arguments for the unity of God, and against the divinity and pre-existence of Christ, from reason, from the scriptures, and from history'; then various defences of Unitarianism, from 1746 to 1789; 'an appeal to the serious and candid professors of christianity'; and 'a familiar illustration of certain passages of scripture relating to the same subject.' His opponents were Dr. Horne, Dr. Price, and Mr. Parkhurst; Dr. Geddes, Mr. Howe, Messrs. Barnard, Knowles, Hawkins, and others. This subject occupies a large part of the 'history of the corruptions of christianity,' 2 vols. 8vo., which led to the acute, and interesting controversy between Dr. P. and Dr. Horsley, and finally to his publication of the 'history of early opinions concerning Jesus Christ, compiled from original writers, proving that the christian church was at first Unitarian,' 4 vols. 8vo. This is Dr. P.'s greatest effort, and most elaborate and

learned work upon this subject. It remained for a considerable time without any formal answer of importance, till the work of Dr. Jamieson.

In the history of early opinions the argument is in a great degree original.* Former theologians have appealed to the fathers as advocates for the doctrines which they themselves espoused, and have endeavoured to support the credit of their respective systems by the authority of the venerable confessors of the primitive church. Dr. Priestley has chosen very different ground. He is the first controversial writer who has ventured openly to declare, that his doctrine is in direct opposition to that of the great names to whose authority he appeals, and who have hitherto been generally regarded as the authorised expositors of the christian faith. He allows that very few, if any, of these eminent men were, properly speaking, Unitarians in principle. Nay, that they even held the doctrine of the proper humanity of Christ in contempt and abhorrence, and that they opposed it to, the utmost of their power. He nevertheless contends, that the great body of christians, both Jews and heathens, for the three first centuries, were strenuous advocates for the proper unity of God, and that they zealously opposed the gnostick, the platonick, and the arrian doctrines, as they were successively introduced, and all the other speculations of the philosophising christians, which were invented to shelter themselves from the disgrace of being the disciples of a low-born Jew, who had been ignominiously executed as a common malefactor. He aims to show that this alarm

* See also his Reply to Smith.

of the unlearned christians was so general, and the dislike of the new doctrine was so deeply rooted, that it was with very great difficulty, and not till after a great length of time, that they were brought quietly to acquiesce in them. If these facts are established, the conclusion follows immediately. No person of reflection can for a moment maintain, that the apostles believed and distinctly taught the pre-existence and divinity of their master, and that the great mass of their converts were unbelievers in their testimony. Such are the comments of one of Dr. P.'s friends upon the design and scope of the argument in the history of early opinions. We have not time to remark on

other theological works of Dr. P. His harmony of the evangelists; notes on all the books of scripture; and general history of the christian church. His sermons, of which there are one or two volumes, are written with great plainness—but not without pathos—and are calculated to have an effect on minds disposed to religious and moral impressions. Of Dr. P.'s character as a man, a scholar, a philosopher, a citizen, a christian, a minister, we have made remarks in a former number. Time will determine whether the world is the wiser and the better that he has lived in it.

The following tablet is at the conclusion of the volume :

THIS TABLET

Is consecrated to the Memory of the

REV. JOSEPH PRIESTLEY, L. L. D.

by his affectionate Congregation,
in Testimony

of their Gratitude for his faithful Attention
to their spiritual Improvement,

and for his peculiar Diligence in training up their Youth
to rational Piety and genuine Virtue:

of their Respect for his great and various Talents,

which were uniformly directed to the noblest Purposes:
and of their veneration

for the pure, benevolent, and holy Principles,

which through the trying Vicissitudes of Life,

and in the awful hour of Death,

animated him with a hope of a blessed Immortality.

His Discoveries as a Philosopher

will never cease to be remembered and admired

by the ablest Improvers of Science.

His firmness as an Advocate of Liberty,

and his Sincerity as an Expounder of the Scriptures,

endeared him to many

of his enlightened and unprejudiced Contemporaries.

His Example as a Christian

will be instructive to the Wise, and interesting to the Good

of every Country, and in every Age.

He was born at Fieldhead, near Leeds, in Yorkshire,

March 24, A. D. 1733.

Was chosen a Minister of this Chapel, Dec. 31, 1780.

Continued in that Office Ten Years and Six Months.

Embarked for America, April 7, 1794.

Died at Northumberland, in Pennsylvania, Feb. 6, 1804.

ART. 37.

The inaugural address delivered in Brunswick, Sept. 9, 1806. By the Rev. Joseph McKean, late President of Bowdoin College. With an eulogy on the Rev. W. Jenks, delivered at his funeral. 8vo. Portland. 1807.

If this address had been remarkable either for eloquence or science, we should still have pronounced it an original and unspandable fault, that it was not written in Latin. As

it is, however, though it contains some sensible remarks on the advantages of education, and some very proper observations on the inefficacy of genius without labour. We are compelled to say, that his friends have consulted their sense as much more than their judgment in printing a tract, which we think will add little to the reputation of this very respectable Divine.

The Eulogy by Mr. Jenks is written in a style of very considerable purity and grace.

CATALOGUE OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, For SEPTEMBER, 1807.

NEW WORKS.

The Life of George Washington, commander in chief of the armies of the United States of America, throughout the war which established their independence, and first president of the United States. By David Ramsay, M. D. author of The History of the American Revolution. 1 vol. 8vo. pp. 400. Ornamented with an engraved Head of Washington. Price to subscribers, in boards, \$2.50. Providence; R. Island, E. S. Thomas. 1807.

Elements of the Greek Language, exhibited for the most part in new rules, made easy to the memory by their brevity, being a translation of Dr. Moór's celebrated Greek Grammar. To which are added, Greville Ewing's Continuation and Syntax. By Samuel Blatchford, A. M. Principal of Linsinburg Academy. New-York, Oelms & Perkins. 1807.

Admiralty Decisions, in the District Court of the United States for the Pennsylvania District; by the Honourable Richard Peters, containing some decisions in the same Court by the late F. Hopkinson, Esq. To which are added cases determined in other Districts of the United States: With an Appendix containing the Laws of Oleron; the Laws of Wisby; and the Laws of the

Hanse Towns; the Marine Ordinances of Louis XIV; a Treatise on the Rights and Duties of Owners, Freighters, and Masters of Ships, and Mariners; and the Laws of the United States relative to Mariners: collected and arranged by Richard Peters, Junr. Esq. In two Volumes. Price \$10 boards, and \$11 bound. Philadelphia, W. P. Farrand.

A Spelling Dictionary, divided into short lessons, for the easier committing to memory by children and young persons; and calculated to assist youth in comprehending what they read: selected from Johnson's Dictionary for the use of her pupils. By Susanna Rowson. 12mo. pp. 132. Boston, J. West. 1807.

Report of a Cause, John Jessup, vs. John Fifth, Esq. for libel. Tried at Woodbury, Gloucester, Marsh, Circuit, 1807, before the Hon. W. Russell, Esquire, 2nd justice of the supreme court of the state of New-Jersey. Pr. 25 cents.

Acts of the general assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, passed at a session began and held at Lancaster, on Tuesday 2d of Dec. 1806. Philadelphia, John Bioren.

The Tocsin or, the call to arms! an essay; being an inquiry into the late proceedings of Great Britain, in her

unscientific stock upon the liberty and independence of the United States of America. Boston, pp. 321. Chickster, S. Computed for the author by J. Hoff. 1807.

The New-England Farmer, a Being a compendium of Farmery. In four parts. Wherein most of the Diseases, to which Horses, West Cattle, Sheep and Swine are subject, are treated of; with medical and surgical Operations thereon:—Being the result of many years experience. Intended for the use of private Gentlemen and Farmers. By Paul Jewett, of Rowley. Salem.

The Berean, or an Appeal to the Scriptures on questions of the utmost importance to the human race. No. 1. of Vol. 2. 12mo. Boston, printed for the Berean society, by Munroe & Francis. 1807.

An Alphabetical Table of the city of New-York. By John Low. Price 50 cts. New-York, & Low.

A Discourse delivered before the members of the Portsmouth Female Asylum, on the Lord's Day, August 9, 1807. By Abiel Abbot, A.M. pastor of the First Church in Beverly, Mass. 8vo. Portsmouth, printed by Stephen Sewall, 1807; and sold by C. Pierce.

A Discourse delivered in the First Baptist Meeting-House in Boston, on Wednesday August 19, 1807, by Joseph Clay, A. M. On the occasion of his installation to the pastoral care of the First Baptist Church and Society in said town. 8vo. pp. 40. Boston, Manning & Loring.

The Christian's Magazine, No. 3. 8vo. New-York, J. & T. Ronalds.

Examination of the passages in the New Testament, quoted from the Old, and called prophecies concerning Jesus Christ. To which is prefixed, an essay on dream, shewing by what operation of the mind a dream is produced in sleep, and applying the same to the account of dreams in the New Testament; with an appendix, containing my private thoughts of a future state, and remarks on the contradictory doctrine in the books of Matthew and Mark. By Thomas Paine. New-York, for the author. 8vo. pp. 38. price 35 cts.

Two Minor Catechisms, for the use of Parents and Instructors in teaching their children and pupils. By Joseph Emerson, pastor of a Church in Beverly. 8vo. pp. 26. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

Vol. IV. No. 9.

NEW EDITIONS.

Vols. III. and IV. of Select Speeches, Forensic and Parliamentary, with prefatory remarks. By N. Chalmers, M. A. 8vo. Philadelphia, B. B. Hopkins & Co. 1807.

Vol. IV. of the Works of the Right Honourable Edmund Burke, First American, taken from the last London edition. 8vo. Boston, John West, and Oliver C. Greenleaf. This volume completes the work, which is sold complete, at \$10 in boards, each volume containing about 500 pages.

Vols. I. and II. of the Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D., comprehending an account of his studies, and numerous works, in chronological order; a series of his epistolary correspondence and conversations with many eminent persons; and various original pieces of his composition. Edited by R. B. Smith. The whole exhibiting a view of literature and literary men in Great Britain from half a century starting which he flourished. By James Boswell, Esq. 1st American from the London edition. In 3 volumes. 8vo. Boston, published by W. Andrews and L. Blake, and Cushing & Appleton, of Salem. Greenough & Stebbins, printers. 1807.

Vol. I. pp. 506. Vol. II. 512.

A Picture of the Empire of Bonaparte, and his Federal Nations; or, the Belgian Traveller.—Being a tour thro' Holland, France, and Switzerland, during the years 1804 and 5, in a series of letters from a Nobleman to a Minister of State. Edited by the author of the Revolutionary Plutarch. 8vo. Price \$2.25. boards. New-York, Ezra Sargent. 1807.

Vol. V. Part II. of The New Cyclopaedia, or Dictionary of Arts and Sciences. By Abraham Rees, D.D., F. R. S., editor of the last edition of Mr. Chambers's Dictionary, with the assistance of eminent professional gentlemen. First American edition, revised, corrected, enlarged, and adapted to this country, by several literary and scientific characters. 4to. Price \$4 for the half-volume. Philadelphia, S. P. Bradford. Lippel, Blake, No. 1. Cornhill, agent in Boston.

Improvements in Education, as it respects the industrious classes of the community, containing, among other important particulars, an account of the

Institution for the education of 1000 poor children, Borough Road, Southwark, and of the new system of education on which it is conducted. By J. Lancaster. From the 3d London edition, with additions. To which is prefixed, a Sketch of the New-York Free School. Price 62 cents. New-York, Griffin and Perkins.

The Art of Reading: containing a number of useful rules, exemplified by a variety of selected and original pieces, calculated to improve the scholar in reading and speaking with propriety; and to impress the minds of youth with sentiments of virtue and religion. 7th edition. 18mo. Boston, John West.

Graham's Birds of Scotland. 12mo. Boston, John West, & David West.

No. VII. of Shakespeare's Plays: containing King John, Richard II. and Henry IV. part I. 18mo. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

The Trial of John Wilson, alias Jenkins Rufford, for guilty, desertion, & contempt: to which are subjoined a few easy remarks. pp. 98. 18mo. Boston, Smelling & Stevens.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

A new work, entitled, A compendious system of Universal Geography, designed for schools. Compiled from the latest and most distinguished European and American travellers, voyagers, and geographers. By Elijah Parish, A. M. minister of Byfield, Massachusetts. Newburyport, Thomas and Whipple.

The 6th Number of the Christian Monitor, by a Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, &c. 12mo. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

A second volume of the Miseries of Human Life. 12mo. Boston, Belcher & Armstrong.

Shakespeare's Miscellaneous Poems, with a Life of the author. 12mo. Boston, Oliver & Munroe.

C. & A. Conrad & Co. of Philadelphia have in the press the following works:—

Carr's Journey through Holland in the autumn of 1806.

The Modern Ship of Fools.

A new edition of Bra. Kenridge's Modern Chivalry, to be comprised in 2 vols. 12mo.

Town and Country, a Comedy by Thomas Morton, author of Speed the Plough, &c.

Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, part second, &c.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

Messrs. Belcher & Armstrong and Oliver & Munroe have issued proposals for publishing A Dictionary of the English language. In which the words are deduced from their originals, and illustrated in their different significations by examples from the best writers. To which are prefixed, a history of the language, and an English grammar. By Samuel Johnson, L.L.D. To which will be added, the pronunciation of Walker. In four volumes, royal octavo. To be printed word for word from the Ninth London Edition, with the Life of the author by Dr. Aikin, and embellished with an elegant engraved likeness. It will be delivered to subscribers in four half volumes, containing upwards of 500 pages each, neatly done up in boards, at \$2, 25 to be paid on delivery. It will be executed on a new and handsome type and good paper, and put to press when 800 are subscribed for. Gentlemen, holding subscription papers are particularly requested to return the number subscribed thereon to the publishers the 1st of next January.

Samuel Mackay, A. M. Professor of the French language in Boston, proposes to publish by subscription, a Chronological Abridgement of the French Revolution, from the Year 1787 to the Year 1792, including the most astonishing events, which distinguish that memorable era: to serve as an introduction to a subsequent uninterrupted historical correspondence, of about 1500 original letters, written by men of talents, rank, reputation, and honour, which will complete a full History of France, from that period, and without chasm, to the peace with Austria, after the battle of Austerlitz. This publication will comprise four volumes, 8vo. of 500 pages each. The price \$2, 50 a volume, in boards, and payment on delivery. The compiler says, The correspondence is carried on by men attached to different parties, and affords an opportunity to draw impartial conclusions. The compiler and translator has received undoubted assurances, that he will be supplied, from time to time, with future vouchers from the same source, which will enable him to bring down the work to the epoch of a general peace in Europe. He is indebted

Colonel Armand de Lacroix, a distinguished officer in the French service, for the precious documents which may render this publication useful and instructive. An attachment to General Moreau forced that officer to our happy shores. This history of the French Revolution to the present time, is worthy the attention of reflecting minds. It will afford alike a lesson to monarchs, courtiers, republics, and future ages. It will blaze forth the destroying eruption of long restrained passions, and show their baneful effects on the social order of distracted Europe. The most secret machinations of the disturbers of public repose will be exposed to light. The deep plots of the cabinet of Versailles, and of the republicans, will be unravelled. The sanguinary deeds of the jacobins, and the excesses of an uncontrolled multitude, will be exhibited in all their hideous forms. The names and characters of the principal actors of the horrid scenes will be handed to posterity. The gloom will occasionally be dispelled, by some solitary traits of greatness, generosity, courage, zeal, patriotism, probity, and of an insuperable love of glory, so peculiar to the French nation. The volatile and singular anecdotes, affecting episodes, witty epigrams, interspersed in the correspondence, will occasionally smoothe the reader's brow, and relieve him from the dark reflections, inseparable from the subject of this awful revolution.

The compiler will probe the sources of disaffection among the army. This will introduce military reflections, and lead to an account of French modern tactics. The inconsiderate man of genius, and the sage of profound meditation will be contrasted; and the thick veil of hypocrisy, which covered the insidious views of the principal actors in this tragick drama, will be rent without mercy. The work will exhibit a true account of the various wars, and the consequent campaigns, battles, sieges, defeats, and their causes. It will make known the peculiar character of the French officers and soldiers, compare the martial talents of that nation, with those of their enemies, and account for the different revolutions at home and in the colonies. It will take a survey of the naval resources of that empire, of the talents of place-

ment, and these who, in all countries, men may be found, honest and bold enough to investigate and publish it. The necessary documents to complete the work, as far as the battle of Austerlitz, are now in the hands of the compiler and translator. The letters are written by men, whose honour and veracity are undoubted; and they have been collected with much care by Col. de Lacroix, one of the correspondents, to whose perseverance and diligence, this valuable and correct collection owes its entire preservation, and chronological arrangement.

Poems on various subjects. Containing, Eclogues, Canzonets, Tales, Odes, the tragedy of the Sowerer, and a variety of miscellaneous pieces. By D. B. Freston, author of the 'Wonders of Creation,' 'Jesse's last moments,' &c. &c. 1806. 800 pages 7s. cent.

and has published a Prospect of Philadelphia has issued proposals for publishing or subscribers. Arrived with a Map of the World, on a globular projection, containing all the new discoveries to the present time, and exhibiting the extent and boundaries of all the empires, kingdoms, and states in the world, with the tracks of the most distinguished navigators, carefully collected from the best charts, maps, voyages, &c. Extant, and regulated by captain Cook's accurate astronomical observations. The size of the map is to be 6 feet by 3, engraved in the best manner; the price to subscribers on cloth and rolled, elegantly coloured, will be eight dollars.

Mr. B. Turner of Philadelphia proposes to publish a Portrait of the Rev. Benjamin Moore, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church in the state of New-York, engraved by B. Edwin.

A choice collection of fashionable songs, entitled, Wild's Budget of Mirth: interspersed with a variety of the most comick songs now sung in the theatres, London: together with a collection of the most approved pathetic and sentimental: as sung by the celebrated performers. The work will be comprised in three numbers, each to contain 36 pages, duodecimo, and will be executed on a handsome type and paper. The price to subscribers will be 20 cents a number. Gentlemen holding subscription papers will return them to Snelling & Simons, Boston.

INTELLIGENCE.

LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS.

It will be recollected by many of the readers of the *Anthology*, that the Rev. Arthur Homer, D.D. and Fellow of St. Mary Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1799 dispersed a folio sheet of 'proposals for printing by subscription a new work, intitled, *Bibliotheca Universalis Americana*, or, an universal American library, containing a general catalogue of publications, relating to America and the West Indies, from the first discovery thereof, by Columbus, in 1492, to the end of the present century.' The work was to consist of two quarto volumes; the price to subscribers two guineas, in boards, to be paid when the whole is completed; and to be dedicated to Gen. Washington. Several improved impressions of the proposals, and prospectus were circulated in 1799, to which was annexed a numerous and respectable list of subscribers. Upon the death of Washington, 'a necessary change in the intended dedication' took place; and, in 1800, a new impression of the proposals, &c. was published, in which was the following paragraph: 'The dedication will be addressed, by particular permission, to the right reverend Dr. Watson, bishop of Landaff, the learned and pious author of the *Apology for the Bible*, as a singular token of the editor's esteem for his lordship's defence of every thing most dear and valuable to man, in answer to the impious and heretical opinions of a person, whose works he shall necessarily have occasion to record.' From this new impression it appears that the liberal and indefatigable author, who had in contemplation a scheme of personally visiting the continent of America, for the sake of obtaining more full and effectual information on the subject, was become a correspondent member of the Massachusetts

Historical Society.' In 1801, another impression of the proposals, &c. was published; in which the compiler pledges himself to give up all the emoluments to the benefit of two distinct funds in England and the United States of North America: the subscriptions in England to be applied to the use of the incorporated society for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts; those in the United States to the purchase of books for the benefit of a publick library in the new Federal City, or university intended to be established within the limits of the district of Columbia, if such an university should receive the sanction of the legislature; if not, for the use of any other publick library; which the subscribers themselves shall please to nominate. To this alteration in the terms of the original proposals, so agreeable to the principles of common equity, it is presumed that no objection can reasonably be made, especially as it has already received the sanction of that society, to which the editor had before intentionally dedicated the exclusive profits. A postscript intimates that 'as the number of subscriptions already received to this work are more than sufficient to defray the expenses of the press, it affords the editor the greatest satisfaction to observe, that every additional subscription will be a considerable benefit to the institutions which it is meant to serve.' The subscriptions already received are then particularized, and are closed with the following advertisement to the reader: 'The editor of this work having hitherto been prevented by very important though private reasons from putting into execution his intended excursion to the continent of America, begs leave to inform his subscribers that he has had no access

standards that volume altogether, but has only postponed it to a more favourable opportunity, when those reasons shall no longer exist. In the interim, he trusts that they will readily excuse the necessary delay, which this will occasion in the publication of his undertaking, from the hopes which he entertains, of rendering it more perfect by a personal visit to that country, especially with respect to its provincial productions, and consequently more worthy of the generous patronage which it has received. In 1803, however, he addressed a printed letter to his subscribers, dated Magd. Coll. Oxford, Feb. 6, announcing his having entirely given up, or at least suspended for a considerable time, the further prosecution of the work. His premature decease is on many accounts deeply to be regretted, and may probably have prevented any testamentary direction relative to it. In the aforementioned letter he considers his subscribers as fully released from the terms of their subscription, and with many thanks for their intended support of the undertaking, concludes thus: "The materials, however, which have been collected at such expence to myself, and infinite pains for several years past, shall not be wholly lost, but, when revised and duly arranged, published at my own risk, or deposited in some public library, where free access may be had to them for the information of any future writers upon American history and literature." It is sorely to be wished that his representatives may fulfil his liberal intentions; and deposit these valuable materials in some public library accordingly.

A manuscript copy of Dr. Ramsay's *Life of Washington*, with several alterations by the author, designed chiefly for the benefit of the British reader, has been forwarded to England, and will shortly be published.

The *memoirs of Dr. Samuel Johnson*, which have been published

ed, were taken at an advanced period of his life, when his sight was very much impaired: a picture of this great man, painted by the late Mr. Barry, is now engraving by Mr. Anker Smith, and will be published by Mr. Manson. This, being painted when he was much younger, may be fairly presumed to be a more characteristic resemblance than any of those which have preceded it.

Mr. Bowyer, of Pall Mall, has issued proposals for a very splendid work, which cannot fail to be highly interesting to all the friends of mankind at large, as it is intended to commemorate the great triumph of humanity in the cause of the much injured natives of Africa. It will be entitled, "A Tribute of the Fine Arts in Honour of the Abolition of the Slave Trade," and will contain three original poems by three gentlemen who have already given distinguished proofs of their poetical talents, beside extracts relative to the subject from some of our most eminent authors. These will be embellished by near twenty plates, including vignettes, by the very first engravers; and the historical subjects will be from original cabinet pictures by the first painters in this country. It will form one handsome volume in large quarto; printed by Bensley, in his best manner, on superfine wove paper, and will be dedicated by permission to his royal highness the duke of Gloucester, patron and the directors and governors of the Society for bettering the Condition of the Natives of Africa. A correct and animated likeness of W. Wilberforce, Esq. will be introduced into the work.

In the course of the summer will be published, *Memoirs of the Voyages, Adventures, and extraordinary long life of David Salmon*, now living in Liverpool, the only survivor of the crew of the *Centurion*, Commodore Anson, with whom he sailed round the world.

Proposals have been issued for publishing by subscription a *Series of Lectures on Painting*, delivered at the Royal Academy of Arts, and at the Royal Institution, in the years 1806 and 1807, by the late

John Opje, Esq. They will be printed in quarto, accompanied with a Mezzotinto engraving, by Reynolds, from a portrait of the author painted by himself.

Dr. Gregory's Bible, accompanied by the illustrative notes of various commentators, and with plates from the designs of the great masters in all the schools of painting, will be put in course of publication at the beginning of the next year. It will be so printed as to form two large volumes quarto, embellished with about one hundred engravings by all our best artists.

A new edition, in six volumes octavo, of the Works of Jacob Bryant, is nearly ready for publication.

Mr. Williams, a merchant of London, who was detained, with other English in France at the commencement of the present war, and who lately obtained his liberty by the intervention of Dr. Jenner, is preparing an account of his detention, and of the present state of the interior of France. Such a work, by a gentleman on whose testimony the publick may depend, cannot fail to be generally interesting at a crisis like the present.

Mr. Belsham's History of Great Britain, from the revolution of 1688 to the ratification of the peace of Amiens, is about to be given to the publick in monthly volumes, embellished with a portrait to each volume, engraved from original paintings, by Heath and Fittler. This work will then correspond, in all respects, with the best editions of Hume, of whose history this revised and enlarged edition of Belsham is worthy of being received as a continuation.

A new edition of Sir William Jones's works, with a life of the author, by Lord Teignmouth, in 13 volumes octavo, is in preparation.

A fine edition of the Comus of Milton, translated literally, and line by line, into French and Italian prose, was printed at Paris, in 1806, in quarto, at the press of Monsieur Charles Crapœlet, Rue de la Harpe,

by the Honourable Francis Henry Egerton; with a preface, an "Ad Lectorem," and criticisms upon the Mask.

Dr. Lloyd, regius professor of Hebrew in the university of Cambridge, has undertaken to superintend the edition of eminent writers on the scriptures of the prophets, which will be enriched with much valuable additional matter, from writers whose works are little known in this country. The books intended to be included in this edition, are Lowth on Isaiah; Gregory's translation of Lowth on the sacred poetry of the Hebrews, with valuable additions from Michaelis, &c.; Blayney on Jeremiah; Newcombe on Ezekiel; Whitty on Daniel; and Newcombe on the minor prophets. It is intended to publish this edition in monthly parts.

Dr. William Hales, formerly professor of oriental languages in the university of Dublin, proposes shortly to publish a learned work, under the title of, An Analysis of ancient chronology, sacred and profane.

An institution for the deaf and dumb has for several years been established at Kiel, with good success. Another institution of this nature is now establishing at Copenhagen, at the expence of government. It will consist of three teachers, besides one female teacher, and forty pupils. Seventy rix-dollars (14*l.*) are to be paid annually for every pupil, which will be defrayed by the pupils themselves, or their parents, when they can afford it, otherwise by the poorest of the district to which they belong. Dr. Castberg, who has travelled two years to inspect the best institutions of this kind in Europe, and who has laid down the plan for this establishment, is appointed the head teacher of this institution.

A recent statistical account of Holland, states the population of that country to amount to two millions, a much greater proportion to the soil than is found in any other

country. The national revenues are stated at 180 millions of florins. The foreign fisheries are very much decayed, and the whale-fishery, which is mentioned as a losing concern, is stated to support 15,000 individuals. The herring and cod-fisheries are still of much importance to the prosperity of Holland, though other nations have obtained so large a share in this species of industry.

Efforts are making to revive the Dutch school of painting and the fine arts. The king of Holland has created a director-general of the fine arts, who is to superintend the royal museum and those of the departments. He is also to be president of the academy of arts, to direct a monthly journal, and to use all his efforts to attract celebrated artists to the Hague. Every year the academy is to give a prize of 3000 florins for the best picture of national history, another of the same value for the best sculpture, a prize of 2000 florins for the best fancy picture, and the same for the best landscape and the best engraving. Eight students are to be maintained at Paris and at Rome, who are to reside two years at each of these capitals.

The catastrophe at Leyden was fatal to one of its first men of letters, Adrian Kluit, professor of antiquities, diplomatick history, and statistics in its university. He had displayed his profound knowledge of those subjects by various publications. His works on the Rights of Man in France, and on the Sovereignty of the United Provinces, did him great honour, but it was from his "History of the Government of the United Provinces to the year 1795," that he derived the highest reputation. The academical disputations held under his presidency, and which were all extracted from his direct courses, are in part collected and translated into Dutch. They are mentions of the most important topics in the history and law of that country. He was engaged on a general history of the

Holland at the time of the terrible explosion, in which his wife also perished.

Wieland is at present at work on a complete translation of Cicero's Epistles.

The king of Naples (Joseph Bonaparte), by a décret dated 17th March, has instituted a new academy of history and antiquities, which is to consist of forty members. The first twenty are nominated by the king; and these twenty are to present to him, for his choice, three names, for each of those wanted to complete the above number. The king appoints a perpetual secretary, and the academy has the power to elect a president for three months. The directors of the museum, of the fowiler excavations, and of the royal press, are always to be members. The minister of the royal household will annually allot to the academy 8000 ducats, to be for current expenses, &c. and 2000 for prizes to the authors of four works, which, according to the judgment of the academy, shall be most deserving of such a reward. There will be a grand meeting every year, when the prizes are to be distributed, and analyses of the works read. The academy may nominate a correspondent in each of the fourteen provinces of the kingdom. The members will enjoy the privilege of being admitted to court. The first meeting was held on the 25th of April. The king, after having received the oaths of the members, pronounced an oration replete with expressions of the lively interest he takes in the labours of the learned men thus brought together. M. Francesco Daniele, the perpetual secretary, in his reply, gave a sketch of the glorious epoch, when Naples was the cradle of the arts and the sciences.

Printing presses are ordered to be established in all the great towns of the kingdom of Naples, and the bishops have been invited to see that they are in activity throughout every province.

Don Pedro de Escaia has recently completed his *Universal Traveller* in 43 volumes. It comprises the best voyages and travels in all countries, either at large or in abstract. The same author is engaged on *Travels in Spain*.

Basil, a Greek physician, has printed, at the patriarchal press of Constantinople, a collection of letters, as a model for the epistolary style in modern Greek. In this collection are several letters of Alexander Mainacordato, the celebrated minister of the Porte, and also of his son Nicholas, prince of Wallachia and Moldavia. It likewise contains notices of several learned Greeks.

The following useful plan for village or parish libraries has been circulated by some public-spirited individuals in England, and as many of our country readers may have opportunities to promote such establishments, we hope that its republication in the *Anthology* will not be useless.

"It is proposed to establish in every village or parish in the kingdom, a small library, consisting chiefly of books of agriculture, history, modern voyages and travels, and other subjects of rational instruction and general utility.

"The funds for commencing and maintaining such a library, to be raised by a subscription of five shillings per quarter for three years, and of a half crown per quarter afterwards.

"The resident clergyman, for the time being, to be president of the society, and a treasurer to be appointed annually from among the subscribers.

"The subscriptions to be received, the accounts to be kept, and the books to be circulated and registered by the parish clerk, or by the parish schoolmaster, who, besides having the use of the books for his own reading, is to be entitled to the fines.

"The books to be kept in the vestry room, at the house of the officiating clergyman, or at any

other convenient place, in a room which shall be accessible to the subscribers.

"Quarterly meetings to be held of the subscribers at the place where the books are kept, when new books are to be ordered, accounts stated, and regulations formed.

"No book to be kept for reading more than a month, under the forfeiture of one penny per day afterwards; and no magazine, review, or pamphlet, to be kept more than five days under a similar penalty.

"The first object of such a society, should be to possess itself of the County Reports, and other books published by the Board of Agriculture, of Gregory's Cyclopaedia, some of Arrowsmith's maps, Dickson's Agriculture, a system of geography, Mavor's Universal History, Johnson's Dictionary, and Hume and Belsham's (the last revised edition) History of England. It should also begin to take in for periodical circulation, the *Monthly Magazine*, the *Annals of Agriculture*, the *Oxford Review*, and the *Journal of Modern Voyages and Travels*.

"The library to be considered as the property of the subscribers, and of their resident heirs or successors, as long as they shall continue to pay their quarterly contributions within twelve months after they fall due; but any parishioner may, at any time, be at liberty to become a reader of the library on paying three shillings for a single quarter.

"N.B. To establish such a library, it seems only to be requisite that a fair copy of this plan should be affixed to the church-door, that the clergyman, or parish-clerk should solicit the names of the chief parishioners; and as soon as a dozen have paid their first subscription, the society must be considered as formed. Should any nobleman or gentleman lend his countenance to the plan, and contribute a donation of ten or twenty pounds, its establishment could scarcely fail to be permanent."

THE
MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,

FOR

OCTOBER, 1807.

For the Anthology.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE INSTITUTION IN PARIS FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE DEAF AND DUMB.

Paris, Nov. 14. 1804.

I REMEMBER having put into your hands a little book, intitled, 'Le Sauvage d'Auvergne,' the history of a wild boy, caught in the woods of France, and committed to the care of the celebrated Abbé Sicard. I recollect that the perusal of this book led you to inquiries, relative to the Parisian establishment for the education of the deaf and dumb, which I was then unable to answer. Since my arrival in this city I have obtained some further information of the rise and progress of this philanthropick institution.

The seminary, now under the patronage of government, was originally instituted by the Abbe L'Epée, who having undertaken the education of two young ladies, born deaf and dumb, was excited, by a contemplation of their unhappy condition, to devise a system of instruction, by methodical signs, which should not only prove a substitute for speech in the conveyance of common ideas, but should also embrace every term, or idea, usually expressed by oral communication. To extend the benefit of this system, he founded a school, in which he received as many of

the deaf and dumb as he was enabled to superintend, and, reserving the bare means of subsistence, (even denying himself, in his old age, the comforts of a winter's fire) devoted his private fortune and the remnant of his days to the support and instruction of his pupils.

For a particular account of his mode of education, and the progress of this establishment, I refer you to a publication, intitled, 'The true method of educating the deaf and dumb, confirmed by long practice.' By an attentive perusal of this book you will perceive, that the author has succeeded in 'introducing to the mind, through the medium of the eye, what is usually received through the medium of the ear';—that this communication is not effected by the simple and ordinary use of the fingers, but by regular methodical signs, not merely significant of letters and single words, but conveying ideas of the most abstruse and metaphysical nature;—that the pupil is conducted from sensible to abstract ideas by a simple analysis;—that he is not only taught the meaning of words, but is also instructed in their grammatical position as to tenses, modes, genders, and cases, and is thoroughly initiated in the

rules of conjugation and declension.

On the death of the abbe L'Epee, the charge of this seminary was assumed by the abbe Sicard, a character equally distinguished for his understanding and benevolence, and who, with a zeal no less fervent than that of his predecessor, is the actual preceptor of the national institution for the education of the deaf and dumb.

Having recently attended one of his monthly lectures, I shall endeavour to give you a summary of that interesting exhibition, and the manner in which it was conducted.

The room, appropriated for this purpose, affords accommodation for three or four hundred spectators. At one end is a small stage, erected for the teacher and his pupils, and on the back of this stage, fastened to the wall, is a large tablet, painted black, on which the scholars write their lessons with white crayons. Soon after the appointed hour the Abbé made his appearance. 'I have been waiting,' said he, 'to introduce to you a new subject, almost an infant, a little savage, a block of unchiselled marble, or rather a statue, yet to be animated and endowed with intellect; a child, who has received no instruction, of whose capacity I am yet ignorant, and whose future prospects will be determined by the experiment I am about to make. I shall begin with one of my elementary lessons, and you will at once judge of my system and its effect.'

A young man (born deaf and dumb) by the name of Massieu, who at an early age had been brought from an obscure village in the south of France and partially instructed by the abbé L'Epee, was directed to commence the lesson of experiment. He drew on the

tablet, I have mentioned, the form of a key, a hat, and a pair of spectacles, and at the foot of each of those figures he placed the article represented by the drawing.

The child, who had been announced, (a boy of about five years of age) was now brought into the room, and by the allurements of a bauble attracted from the arms of his mother, carried to the tablet, and held up to the objects which Massieu had delineated. He appeared, for some time, to regard them with an air of total indifference, and, by his vacant and inattentive manner, excited an evident distress in the mind of the Abbé; but at the moment when the instructor, as well as the audience, were beginning to doubt his capacity, and despair of his salvation, he clapped one hand to his head, and pointed (with a smile) to the hat, which had been drawn on the board. 'Enough!' exclaimed the Abbé; 'this child may be snatched from the abyss of night, from the cheerless and insulated solitude in which thousands of his unhappy brethren are doomed to suffer!'

This experiment happily concluded, the Abbé proceeded to shew by what method the names of the articles, described by the painter, are first impressed on the mind and memory of the pupil. In order to do this he caused the letters K-E-Y to be distinctly written on the figure of the key; H-A-T on the hat, &c. Those characters, united with the figures, are left for the study of the pupil, as another sign of the thing they describe, and when they are firmly imprinted on the memory, the drawing is erased, and the letters alone remain as the symbol, or representation of the object. This is one of the introductory lessons to the art of reading and writing.

'I have shewn you,' said the Abbé, 'the foot of the ladder, the first round by which we ascend. I will now take you to the top.' He beckoned to his favourite Massieu. 'I will thank any gentleman,' said he, 'for a book, or a newspaper; we will exercise the talents of this young man.' The gazette of the day was handed by one of the audience. 'Take this,' said the Abbé, addressing himself to another of his scholars, 'dictate a passage to Massieu, and let him shew that he can not only comprehend the ideas you communicate by signs, but that he can seize and repeat the identical words which are used in the paper you now hold in your hands.'

This address from the Abbé to his pupil, you will observe, was first rehearsed to the audience, and afterwards repeated in the language of gesticulation to the scholar.

An advertisement had been pointed out, by the person who furnished the paper, as the subject of experiment. The prompter communicated, by signs, the contents of the publication, which Massieu, without the smallest hesitation, or error, except in a single instance, wrote word for word on the tablet. This exception was the substitution of the word *arrondissement* for *département*. The prompter, on the commission of this fault, signified to Massieu that he had mistaken the word, and explained anew. He then wrote 'Empire or Republick.' Neither of these would answer. A moment's pause, however, relieved him; the word flashed on his mind, and he went on correctly to the end of the sentence. 'I will now ask him,' said the Abbé, 'to define the two words.' The question was proposed, and written down by Massieu verbatim in the language used by

the Abbé, viz. 'What is the difference between your word *arrondissement* and the word *département*?' 'An *arrondissement*,' was the reply, 'comprehends several *communes*, governed by mayors, who are all subject to the control of a *sous préfet*: a *département* is a new province, a part of the empire, a military government encircling several *arrondissements*, under the dominion of a *préfet*.—'You use the word *government*,' said the Abbé, 'what is the meaning of the word?' 'It is that power, which is placed at the head of the community to maintain its existence by providing for its wants, and defending it against harm.' Then, as if dissatisfied with the definition, or desirous of illustrating it, he added, (as nearly as I could translate,) 'It is one man, or several, acting as the soul of the body *politick*, and serving as the prompter, the guide, and defence of its members.'

You may well imagine that the auditors testified their pleasure and surprize. 'You are pleased with my pupil,' said the Abbé, 'I will thank you to try his resources. Ask him any question, and I will engage that his answer shall be prompt, clear, and correct.' Ask him what is *musick*? said one of the audience. The question, with some reluctance, was proposed. Massieu shook his head, and wrote on the tablet: 'It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for a deaf man to answer this question satisfactorily; our conceptions of *musick* must be very imperfect. I can only say, that I conceive it to be an agreeable sensation of the soul, excited by the voice, or the *noise* (*bruit*) of instruments.'

'Speaking of *musick*,' said the Abbé, 'you no doubt recollect the answer of the blind man Saunder-

son, when asked to what he could liken the colour of scarlet; he replied to the sound of a trumpet. A gentleman of high literary distinction, who attended one of my lectures, requested me to reverse this question; to ask of Massieu, what were his conceptions of the sound of a trumpet? I remarked that this inquiry, relating to sounds, of which the deaf could form no adequate idea, was calculated to excite embarrassment; an effect I was always anxious to avoid. He however persisted in the request, and I could not refuse to hazard the question. This was the answer: "I can explain my ideas of the sound of a trumpet only by comparing it to the florid and effulgent rays, which irradiate and adorn the horizon after the setting sun."

'There is always something unique and naïve,' continued he, 'in the answers of this surprizing young man. Many of his definitions have been reported: What can be more sublime, than his illustration of the sound of a trumpet? What more terse, than his reply to the person who asked him, what is eternity? "It is a never-ending line, without beginning or without end. It is a day without yesterday or to-morrow." The tenacity of his memory is no less wonderful than the acuteness of his mind, or the brilliancy of his imagination. He perfectly recollects the date of any event, which has fallen within his notice.'—Ask him, interrupted a bystander, when you were created a member of the Institute? This trifling question was answered immediately; on such a day and year of the republick, corresponding with such a day and year of the old calendar.

The inclination to make interrogations now became general. Many other questions were proposed. I

noted down those which follow, with the answers given by Massieu, viz. What is the faculty of speech? 'It is a concussion of air produced by the movement of the lips and the tongue against the palate and the teeth, operating on the ear, and through that organ conveying ideas to the mind. It is a light, a sun, which God has given to man to reflect his thoughts.'

What is intelligence? 'It is the power of the mind to move in the straight line of truth, to distinguish the right from the wrong, the necessary from the superfluous, to see clearly and precisely. It is the force, courage, and vigour of the mind.'

What is the will? 'It is a faculty which the creator has conferred on the soul, which inclines it to embrace what is good, and avoid what is evil.' He afterwards added, with a smile, 'The human will is fortunately more extensive than the power.'

'You have seen (said the Abbe) that my pupils have been instructed in the arts of reading, writing, and conversing with each other; I will now shew you that these unfortunate people, though incapable of distinguishing sounds by the ear, can also be taught the art of utterance and articulation.

'This faculty is acquired by minutely observing and imitating the guttural and labial exertions of the instructor, the agency of the tongue, the lips, &c. The pronunciation of a word beginning with a consonant is less difficult than one commencing with a vowel; for instance, in pronouncing the word pa-pa (one of the earliest efforts of infancy) the lips are made to touch. This contact is plainly perceptible to the observer, and can be easily imitated; whereas, in the expression of the vowels, there is less,

external motion, and the sound is therefore produced with less certainty. It is easier to pronounce *A* and *b*, than *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, or *u*.*

To exemplify these observations he introduced a female pupil, of about 15 years of age, and caused her to repeat several words which he pronounced. 'You see, said he, that she can imitate my expression; but this is not the extent of her acquirement; she can utter, and distinctly articulate, words, which are submitted to her in writing, as well as those which are spoken by another.' To evince this, he, in his gesticular language, directed Massieu to read four lines of poetry (an address to the Deity) to another of the pupils, and ordered the latter to write them on the tablet, as an experiment for the girl. The transcription was executed with the utmost facility and precision, the measure and punctuation critically observed by the writer, and every syllable distinctly though feebly pronounced by the girl.* There was a something in her voice extremely distressing, without being absolutely discordant; a plaintive monotonous sound, rather tending to excite melancholy than pleasure.

'This child,' said the Abbe, kindly taking her by the hand, 'is peculiarly interesting to me. I shall always remember the pleasure I experienced from her earliest instruction, and one circumstance I can never recollect without emo-

* At the end of the Abbe L'Epee's methodical institution may be seen a Latin oration, consisting of several pages, which he asserts to have been pronounced by one of his scholars, born deaf, to a numerous and splendid audience.

tion. One of the first impressions which I endeavoured to stamp on her infant mind was the conception of a God. In proportion as I advanced in my efforts, she became more delighted with the subject; and when I at last succeeded in conveying an idea of the existence and attributes of our all-bounteous parent, she suddenly threw herself on her knees, lifted her hands and eyes for a moment in an attitude of adoration, and then springing from the ground, attempted to leave me—Whither are you going? said I. *To find my father and my mother*, was the reply, and to tell them *there is a God!!*

Yours, &c.

NOTE.

In the book, referred to in the beginning of this letter, we find an address from the rector and fellows of the learned academy of Zurich to the Abbe L'Epee, in which they express the following opinion of his system of education.

'We do not in the least scruple to declare, what none of us could once have supposed possible, that, in our opinion, no articulate language whatsoever, in use among mankind, is fuller or of greater compass, than that language which you have established for the deaf and dumb. The signs you employ are those, which nature herself hath associated to things, and which all deaf persons use spontaneously; but this mute language, by your improvements of it, is changed out of the rudeness of poverty, discoverable in the primitive state of all arts, into the opulence of a copious and polished tongue.'

CURSORY STRICTURES ON MODERN ART, AND PARTICULARLY SCULPTURE, IN ENGLAND, PREVIOUS TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY. *By J. Flaxman, Esq.**

IN order to form a just estimate of the benefit which sculpture has derived from the exertions of the present era in England, it will be necessary to take a cursory view of this art in Europe previous to the period at which the Royal Academy was established in London; and to observe with a little more accuracy its progress in our own country.

In Rome, the centre from which the arts have emanated for centuries past to the surrounding countries, about 150 years since, the taste of Bernini, the Neapolitan sculptor, infected and prevailed over the Florentine and Roman schools. He had studied painting, and seems to have been enamoured with the works of Correggio, who, to avoid the dryness of his master, Andrea Mantegna, gave prodigious flow to the lines of his figures and redundancy to his draperies; of which Bernini's statues are only caricatures, totally devoid of the painter's ecstasick grace and sentiment. Before he was twenty years old, he completed a marble group, the size of nature, of Apollo and Daphne, at the moment the nymph is changing into a laurel tree: the delicate character of the figures, the sprightly expression, the smooth finish of the material, and the light execution of the foliage, so captivated the publick taste, that Michel Angelo was forgotten, the antique statues disregarded, and nothing looked on with delight that was not produced by the new favourite. It is true, Bernini showed respectable talents in the group above mentioned; and had he con-

tinued to select and study nature with diligence, he might have been a most valuable artist: but sudden success prevented him—he never improved; the immense works crowded on him, made him spurn all example, and consider only how he might send out his models and designs most speedily. The attitudes of his figures are much twisted, the heads turned with a meretricious grace, the countenances sinner affectedly, or are deformed by low passions, the poor and vulgar limbs and bodies are loaded with draperies of such protruding or flying folds, as equally expose the unskilfulness of the artist and the solidity of the material on which he worked; his groups have an unmeaning connection, and his basso relievos are filled up with buildings in perspective, clouds, water, diminished figures, and attempts to represent such aerial effects, as break down the boundaries of painting and sculpture, and confound the two arts. Pope Urban the Eighth was patron of this artist, and so passionately did he admire and promote his works, that, not contented with spending immense sums upon them, he took the ancient bronze ornaments from the roof in the portico of the Pantheon, to the amount of 186,000 pounds, for Bernini to cast his bizarre and childish baldequin for St. Peter's, and then published their mutual shame in a boasting Latin inscription, affixed to the building he had robbed so shamefully. Thus the pope and the sculptor carried all before them in their time, and sent out a

* From *The Artist*.

baleful influence, which corrupted publick taste upwards of one hundred years afterwards.

Rusconi, Mocho, Bolgio, Quesnoy (commonly called Fiamingo) and the inferiour sculptors of the time, adopted the popular taste, which their scholars continued, and the last puny and insipid effects are to be seen in the statues at the Fountain of Trevi, and monument of Benedict the Fourteenth, executed by Bracci and Sybilla, in St. Peter's church, about fifty years since.

Nearly the same taste in the arts of design which prevailed in Italy prevailed also in France, as the latter country was supplied with art, or artists, from the former: thus when Lewis the Fourteenth invited Bernini to come into France, Bernini answered, 'that he had no need of *him*, whilst he had such a sculptor as Puget.' Puget's works were somewhat more dry and detailed than Bernini's; Girardon's, his cotemporary, were more heavy; but they were all of the same school. The opinion of Bernini confirmed the monarch, and the same bad taste was cultivated in France with as much zeal as it was fostered in Italy; as we see by the works of Bouchardon, Boucher, &c. who continued it to the same time, which extinguished its last feeble efforts in both countries.

Spain, Germany, and the other nations of Europe, receiving their supplies of fine art from the two countries above mentioned, were consequently influenced by the same motives, and trammelled in the same taste, which was at this period become so degraded, as to be at the point of utter dissolution, had not some controlling circumstances arisen, which assisted in its revival.

The king of Naples had, in part,

cleared the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii, which exposed to view streets, dwelling-houses, temples, theatres, baths, and publick places, nearly in the same state as when they were inhabited 1700 years before: these discoveries brought back to the light of day, as it were by miracle, 700 ancient paintings, and a prodigious number of bronze statues and busts of the finest Greek sculpture.

The success of these discoveries, and the interest they excited, stimulated the popes, Roman nobility, and antiquarians, to make excavations wherever there was a probability their labours would be rewarded. These researches fortunately recovered from oblivion innumerable pieces of exquisite sculpture; many of the most precious formed the Clementine museum; many enriched the Borghese, Albani, and other collections; several passed into Germany, Holland, Sweden, Russia, France, and Spain: England was not insensible to the opportunity, and several intelligent and spirited individuals profited by this profusion of ancient treasures. Such acquisitions roused attention from all quarters; they were eagerly visited, greedily examined, dissertations and memoirs were written concerning them, and systematick inquiries into their principles published. During all this research and analysis, frequent comparisons were made with the modern works, the remains of the bad taste above mentioned and which were found so deficient in every excellence that they were universally abandoned to contempt. The interested antiquarian, with sordid cruelty, and to raise the price of his own commodity, whispered that modern talents were unequal to the meanest of these productions, and sometimes he

found a senseless purchaser, whose only measure of his intelligence was the abundance of his wealth ; who would pay dearly enough for any thing that was called ancient, to be received into the number of the cognoscenti, and join in the outcry against modern ability.

All this, however, brought in a new and severer mode of study among the artists, with a more diligent attention to nature and the antique, and has enabled some of them to exhibit performances much more on a level with the merit of those works than the insensible can feel, or the interested choose to own.

Having marked these phenomena in the hemisphere of art, we should now turn our thoughts more particularly to England, and see in what manner it was affected by their influence. Previous to the Reformation, although Italian artists were employed in ornamenting our churches and tombs, yet in the old histories, records, and contracts of publick buildings, there are abundant names of English painters and sculptors, who appear to have been considered able masters in their time, perhaps not inferiour to their Italian fellow-workmen. But after Henry the Eighth's separation from the church of Rome, Elizabeth, proceeding in the reformation, destroyed the pictures and images in the churches ; strictly forbidding any thing of the kind to be admitted in future, under the severest penalties, as being catholick and idolatrous. This entirely prevented the exercise of historical painting, or sculpture, in England ; at the very time that Raffaele and Michel Angelo had brought those arts into the highest estimation on the continent.—The rebellion, in 1648, completed what the refor-

mation had begun ; the fanaticks defaced whatever they could, that the former inquisition had spared ; they broke painted windows and tombs, carried away the monumental brass, and church-plate, crying, ' Cursed be he, that doth the work of the Lord deceitfully !'

—Thus the artist, terrified by the threats of the sovereign, the denunciation of death or perpetual imprisonment from the laws, and scared by fanatical anathemas, found that his only hope of safety rested upon quitting forever a profession, which enclosed him on all sides with the prospect of misery and destruction. From this time, and from these causes, we scarcely hear of any attempt at historical art by an Englishman, until it was again called forth by the benign influence of the present reign.

When the liberal spirit of Charles the First desired to adorn the architecture of Whitehall with the graces of painting, he was obliged to seek the artist in a foreign land ; he had no subject equal to the task : Rubens and Vandyck were employed : and when the king's bust was to be done, Vandyck painted three views of his face, a front, a side, and a three-quarter, which were sent to Bernini in Rome, by whom it was executed in marble. If our kings and nobility had continued to inhabit castles, as in the feudal times, painting and sculpture would have been but little wanted ; for, if the walls of the building were sufficiently strong to resist battery, or shot, and contained retreats to secure the inhabitants from the enemy, the end of that kind of dwelling was answered : but in the times succeeding Charles the First, the improved state of society and knowledge had induced the great

to build commodious villas and palaces, in which the architectural distribution made the sister-arts absolutely necessary to uniformity and completion. Still ingenious foreigners were employed for this purpose, whilst the native was treated with contempt, both at home and abroad, for his inability in those arts which law and religion had forbidden him to practise.

As this suppression of ability was extremely impolitic and dishonourable to the country, let us inquire for a moment on what scriptural authority the prohibition which occasioned it was supported. Painting and sculpture were banished from the churches; that they might not idolatrously be worshipped: and this is just; the divine law orders they shall not be worshipped, but utters no prohibition against the arts themselves: on the contrary, divine precept directed images of cherubim to be made, whose wings should extend over the ark of the covenant, and cherubim to be embroidered on the curtains which surrounded it. This decision in favour of the arts being employed for proper purposes in sacred buildings, is so clear and strong, that it could only be overlooked, or opposed, by infatuated bigotry.

A succession of foreign artists, as has been observed, were employed in almost every work of importance, from the time of Charles the First, until within forty years of the present day. The painters, Vandyck, Lely, Verrio, Kneller and Casali, succeeded to each other; as did also the sculptors, Cibber, Gibbons, Scheemakers, Rysbrack, Bertocini, and Roubiliac. This variety of artists (sculptors are more particularly meant) from different countries, French, Flemings, and Italians,

sometimes brought the taste of John Goujon or Puget, sometimes a debased imitation of John of Bologna and the Florentine school, and sometimes the taste of Bernini; but never a pure style and sound principles. After the Reformation, the chief employment of sculpture was in sepulchral monuments, which, during the reigns of James the First and his son Charles, were chiefly executed by Frenchmen or Flemings, scholars of John Goujon, still regulated by the principles their master had acquired from Primaticcio, the pupil of Raffaele. Some of these works have great merit, particularly the tombs of sir John Norris, and sir Francis Vere, in the same chapel with Roubiliac's monument of lady E. Nightingale in Westminster abbey.

The rebuilding of London, in the reign of Charles the Second, gave some employment to sculpture. Cibber's works are the most conspicuous of that period: his mad figures on the Bethlehem gates have a natural sentiment, but are ill drawn; his basso-relief on the pedestal of London monument is not ill conceived, but stiff and clumsy in the execution; his clothed figures in the Royal Exchange strut like dancing-masters, and have the importance of cock-combs. But with all his faults, what he left is far preferable to the succeeding works. The figures in St. Paul's church, and the conversion of the saint in the pediment, partake strongly of Bernini's affectation; and from that time to the establishment of the Royal Academy we must expect to see every piece of sculpture more or less tinctured with the same bad taste, especially the sepulchral monuments, to which, after the statues and basso-relievos last no-

ticed, we must chiefly look for the progress of sculpture amongst us.

It will be proper here to remark that all the Grecian sculpture was arranged in three classes: the group of figures; the single statue; and alto or basso relievo. The first two classes were suited to all insulated situations, and the latter to fill pannels in walls. These classes not only serve all architectural purposes, but adorn, harmonise, and finish its forms: every attempt to make other combinations between sculpture and architecture will be found unreasonable, and degrading to one as well as the other; but Bernini, whose character and works we have already noticed, seems to have thought that he had the privilege of equally subverting art and nature in his works. I shall mention the following instances, although I am afraid their extreme absurdities will prevent such of those from believing the descriptions as have not seen the things themselves. In the area before the church of Santa Maria sopra Minerva he raised a bronze elephant on a pedestal, and on the elephant's back placed an Egyptian obelisk: the architecture of the east window in St. Peter's church he has loaded with many tons weight of stucco clouds, out of which issue huge rays, intended for light or glory, of the same materials, but long and thick enough for the beams of a house. Extravagances of this kind, and many others that he has committed, have fortunately had little effect upon us, because some have been necessarily connected with catholic churches, and others introduced in fountains; which are only frequent in hot countries: we were, however, the dupes of his school, until native genius gained sufficient

judgment and strength to correct its errors, and supply a better style of art. Before the time of Bernini two kinds of sepulchral monuments prevailed; one from the highest antiquity, which was a sarcophagus, either plain, or covered with basso-relievos, with or without the statue of the deceased on its top. The other kind was introduced by Michel Angelo, in the mausoleum of Julius the Second; and those of the Medici family, in the chapel of St. Lorenzo, at Florence. In these the sarcophagus, as in the former kind, was suited to the niche or architecture against which it was placed, and surmounted or surrounded by statues of the deceased, and his moral attributes. Both these practices were rational and proper; the one for plainer, the other for more magnificent tombs. This branch of sculpture was of too much importance to be neglected by Bernini; he stripped it of its ancient simple grandeur, leaving it neither group, statue, basso-relievo, sarcophagus, or trophy, but an absurd mixture of all, placed against a dark-coloured marble pyramid, and thus sacrificing all that is valuable in sculpture to what he conceived a picturesque effect. The pyramid is from its immense size, solid base, diminishing upwards, a building intended to last thousands of years: how ridiculous, then, to raise a little pyramid of slab marble, an inch thick, on a neat pedestal, to be the back ground of sculpture, belonging to none of the ancient classes, foisted into architecture, with which it has neither connection nor harmony, and in which it appears equally disgusting and deformed! The first monuments he raised of this kind were two in the Chigi chapel in the church of Santa Maria del Popolo, in Rome; this nov-

elty soon found its way into every country in Europe; our Westminster abbey is an unfortunate instance of its prevalence. Rysbrack and Roubiliac spread the popularity of this taste in England; but as the first of these sculptors was a mere workman, too insipid to give pleasure, and too dull to offend greatly, we shall dismiss him without further notice. The other deserves more attention. Roubiliac was an enthusiast in his art, possessed of considerable talents: he copied vulgar nature with zeal, and some of his figures seem alive; but their characters are mean, their expressions grimace, and their forms frequently bad; his draperies are worked with great diligence and labour, from the most disagreeable examples in nature, the folds being either heavy or meagre, frequently without a determined general form, and hung on his figures with little meaning. He grouped two figures together (for he never attempted more) better than most of his contemporaries; but his thoughts are conceits, and his compositions epigrams. This artist

went to Italy, in company with Mr. Pond, an English painter; he was absent from home three months, going and returning, stayed three days in Rome, and laughed at the sublime remains of ancient sculpture! The other sculptors of this time were ordinary men; their faults were common, and their works have no beauty to rescue them from oblivion.

Thus we have seen the nobler efforts of painting and sculpture driven out of the country by reforming violence and puritanical fury; sculpture reduced to the narrow limits of monument-making, and by these means degraded to a sort of trade; and this department supplied from the corrupt source of Bernini's school, and not unfrequently through the worst mediums. In this state the art continued until the establishment of the Royal Academy settled a course of study, both at home and abroad, which developed the powers of English genius, till then unknown to the natives, and denied by foreigners.

For the Anthology.

VIEW OF MODERN FRANCE.

Paris, December 15th. 1805.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I HAVE always doubted, whether any great addition was made to our stock of knowledge by visiting foreign countries. The view we take of them is so very superficial, that we are perhaps exposed to form as many erroneous, as correct notions of national character, manners, &c. I have been confirmed in this idea by reading several of the works of travellers in

the United States. They may be considered as so many collections of errors and blunders, of falsehoods and calumnies, rather than of truths. In giving therefore any sketches of the countries, in which I have travelled, I must be understood as offering them rather as pictures of the impressions made on my own mind, than resemblances of nature.

One benefit however generally results to us from these visits; we are induced to look into and read with

attention the history, and political, commercial, and moral state of the several countries through which we pass, that we may the better understand the objects which offer themselves to our notice; and though this kind of knowledge, being derived chiefly from books, might be as well acquired in our closets at home, yet wanting a sufficient stimulus to pursue it with zeal, we are too apt to neglect it.

Thus, for example, I was not sensible that I was so totally ignorant, as I find myself, of the extent, population, power, and resources of France. I knew it to be a great and powerful nation; but had no precise ideas on any one point, constituting its grandeur and power.

The science of *statistique* has become very fashionable in France, since the late rapid accession of power has led this nation to believe, that she shall soon give laws to all the world. The violent hatred of the English is principally occasioned by the conviction, that that nation offers some barrier to its commercial pre-eminence. As to its continental domination, there exists no barrier, which they cannot in a short time overleap; and they hope some Britannicus will arise, who will remove the obstacles to their commercial superiority.

An elementary work on the statistical situation of France has just appeared, and as it appears to me to have drawn its information from solid sources, and as I know you have a taste for subjects of this nature, I shall give you some of the most interesting details which I have collected. It will save you at least the trouble of translation.

The first durable aggrandizement of France began under St. Louis, who added Burgundy to his estates. Under Philip de Valois,

Dauphiny was added; Charles VII. reunited Guienne; Francis I. Brittany; Henry II. the three bishopricks of Metz, Toul, and Verdun, and the county or earldom of Calais; Henry IV. Navarre; Louis XIII. Roussillon; Louis XIV. Flanders, Artois, Franche Comté, l'Alsace, and the principality of Orange; Louis XV. Lorraine and the island of Corsica.

If you have a map of France, divided into *provinces*, as it was before the revolution, you will see that even before the revolution France had more than doubled its size in two centuries; that it was gradually advancing to supreme power even under its monarchs.

During the revolution and since, it has absolutely annexed to its territory Belgium, or the low countries, Geneva, Avignon, Savoy, the whole of the left bank of the Rhine, the county of Nice and Monaco, Piedmont, the island of Elba, and lately Genoa. These are independent of the countries over which she has an *absolute*, but not a nominal sovereignty.

France, at the moment of the breaking out of the revolution, was estimated to contain 27,491 square leagues, and the number of its inhabitants was computed at 24,800,000. The territory of France is now estimated at 32,026 square leagues, and its population at 34,449,351. To judge rightly of the quantity of land contained in these leagues it is necessary to observe, that the league here referred to is one twenty-fifth part of a degree, or two miles and two-fifths English.

The contributions of France, before the revolution, amounted to 584,600,000 francs, or nearly twenty-five millions sterling; equal to about 23 livres 13 sous per head of all the individuals of every age

and sex. They estimate the contributions at present, or rather before the late *continental* war, at 334,000,000; or about 9 livres 7 sous per head. Thus it would at first blush appear, that the expenses, or rather the burdens of the people, were essentially diminished. But it is necessary to observe, that, by the accounts of the treasury for the year *eleven*, which was the year in which they were at peace with all the world, the actual receipts of the treasury amounted to 741,230,351, equal to about thirty millions sterling; and though the articles, which compose a large part of this revenue, are not what are called personal contributions, yet they arise from indirect taxes, excises, stamps, lotteries, &c. which are in effect a charge on the publick, and therefore amount to nearly as much per head, as the contributions before the revolution, viz. to upwards of 22 livres for each individual.—The expenses of the year 13, which was the last, amounted to 684,000,000, and the revenues were made adequate to the discharge of them. But you will observe, the continental war had not then broken out, and that a war with *England* only does not cost France more than a state of peace. Her *military* establishment would in either case be the same, and the French will never relax their measures to re-establish their *marine*: in a short, I think it would be more active in time of peace, than in that of war. The manner of raising their taxes I shall make the subject of a future letter.

From the late returns, officially made to the government; the following facts, in relation to the population of France are established:

1st. The number of inhabitants to a league square is 1080.

2d. The number of births to the whole population is as 1 to 28.

3d. The number of marriages to population as 1 to 132.

4th. The number of deaths to the population as 1 to 30.

From the last of which it results, that there are thirty persons born to twenty-eight that die, so that there is a small increase of population annually in France, from natural causes, which might double its population in a little more than four hundred years. But when we place against this, the extra loss of inhabitants, arising from occasional epidemics, which occur in populous countries every century at least, and the loss in war, which is not computed, and other general disasters, I cannot think the increase more than sufficient to keep up the existing numbers.

As to the effects of emigration or of immigration on most of the States of Europe, they are very inconsiderable, especially in France, where the rigour with regard to passports is such, that it is *impossible* for a Frenchman to quit his country, to enter it, or to travel in it, without the leave of the police; which leave, at least to quit the country, will not be given without the most urgent reasons.—No such system exists in England!! An Englishman lands, and emigrates, travels, or stays at home, without passports or domiciliary visits!!

The number of men between 20 and 40 (and who are all liable to military service) amounts to about 7,600,000. Out of this number, 60,000 are drawn by lot annually; so that about 1 in 127 of all the males between 20 and 40 are an-

nally called into service. Of these 60,000 one-half go into duty immediately, but the other 30,000 are kept as an army of reserve. This is the usual course: but as soon as the war with Austria broke out, they called out the whole 60,000, and the reserve for the last five years.

Thus you see a system absolute, never departed from, tending to make France a nation of soldiers;

and which will finally enable her to accomplish her views of empire. When I speak of the education of youth, as I shall hereafter, you will see still more powerful foundations laid in the character and habits of that part of society, which in all countries, from its weight and influence, is destined to produce extensive effects upon the national conduct and character.

Yours, &c.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER; No. 26.

Nullius in bono sine socio jucunda possessio.—SENECA.

IN a metropolis as wealthy and populous as our own, it is surprising to hear such constant complaints of the dulness of society, as we daily meet with. These complaints, although very general, ought to be confined to those parties, where the sexes meet together. Gentlemen enjoy society very extensively; besides their intercourse in the way of business, they frequently meet together to dine, sometimes prolonging their sitting till the midnight hour. They meet in social and literary clubs, where they find characters, and tastes, congenial to their own; and they always endeavour to combine the pleasures of society with their meetings for publick or even charitable and scientifick purposes. These, and various other social pleasures, are exclusively their own. Ladies, on the other hand, have but little time that they can employ in the enjoyment of society. Their mornings are wholly occupied by domestick duties, except perhaps they are interrupted by ceremonial visits, which are ended with a few formal compli-

ments. At dinner they are expected to preside at the head of their own table, but they soon retreat with the cloth, leaving gentlemen to enjoy themselves alone till tea is announced. The amusements of the evening are not quite so limited; but, if we except occasional balls and plays, tea-parties are the only social pleasures, that ladies enjoy. The very name of tea-party now implies tediousness; and unsuccessful has been every effort to relieve their case. Cards have lost their interest, and even musick, which could subdue the fabled gods of hell, yields to the stronger powers of dulness, and if not wholly lost amid the noise of the talkative, only apologizes for the silence of the sleeping. Bless indeed would be that happy genius, who, by some powerful magick charm, should dethrone the leaden goddess, and, rousing every dormant faculty into action, should place wit and ease in her place. Nor is the task so arduous as might be supposed. Our manners only are defective. Ladies cannot consistently be charged with wanting

education, when it is considered out of their sphere to give an opinion beyond the fashions of the day, or the amusements of the season; and when, by making an observation on literature, they receive the odious title of female pedant, and are sneeringly said to be so sensible, as to be fit only for the company of gentlemen. Because some of their sex wish to be thought metaphysicians or statesmen, characters for which they are unqualified both by nature and education, are the rest to be excluded from the paths of literature and the regions of taste? The powers of women are certainly adequate to the part they have to bear in society; but such is the state of our social parties, and such the want of ease which prevails at them, that those powers are wholly lost; and it is frequently difficult to discover, whether a lady, whose mind is really cultivated, can extend her ideas beyond the most trifling subject of conversation: Our parties are not indeed so formal as they once were, when the two sexes were arranged fronting each other, like hostile armies, and were never disturbed during the evening, except when some valiant advanced towards the foe, and after a short skirmish retreated to his former security. But we have still great stiffness in all our parties, which is as uncomfortable to be supported, as the brocades and contracted waists were by the dames of old. The attempts, that have been made to correct this stiffness, have been generally injudicious, and have ended in the opposite extreme of levity, which, though it may have rendered celebrated the ladies of some cities, yet has never produced individual esteem. Some with their stiffness throw aside that natural dignity of

character, which is the best support of female worth. *Wishing to be easy, they become familiar; they are flattered by the attentions of the moment, and supported by their own conceit; they go on without reflecting, till too late they find themselves deserted; and discover, that for the gratification of the moment, they have rendered themselves cheap, and have lost that respect, which they sought to obtain. Like toys, they are trifled with for a time, and are then put aside for some new plaything. Many of our first ladies likewise want confidence, and suffer themselves to be abashed and silenced by the folly and impertinence of fops. I have known many a lady, who, with a small circle of friends, was the life of the party, unable in a mixed company to take any share in conversation.*

But if ladies do not perform their part in society, gentlemen are still more deficient. Some think their duty fully performed, if they are in time to attend their wives home. Others collect in a corner to converse on the news of the day, or the business of the exchange; while some are seated the whole evening at the serious and taciturn game of whist. Our young men think they condescend by being present at these parties, and are therefore little anxious to promote the entertainment of the company; though perhaps they may repeat a few studied speeches, in order to impress upon others the same exalted ideas of their own worth, that they have themselves.

The hostess equally mistakes her part, when she considers that she has performed her duty by providing refreshments for the evening, and guests to consume them. There are indeed a few small cir-

cles, which ought to be exempted from the general character; but they are rare, and many of those ladies, who shine in them, are lost in the mixed crowds of large tea-parties. To render general society agreeable, it would be necessary, that every one should feel he had a part to bear in it; and that he was bound to exert himself for the entertainment of the whole. If the hostess, instead of discharging a long score of old debts, by squeezing into her apartments a large collection of persons, whose faces even are not familiar to each other, and few of whom can converse on the same topics, would invite those persons only, whose society would be mutually agreeable, and who could without restraint join in the same conversation: if gentlemen would recollect, that whatever pleasure they may derive from their own society, it is in the company of ladies only

that their manners can be softened and refined: if they would therefore endeavour to give ladies confidence, and throwing off their own superciliousness, introduce subjects that ladies may converse upon with ease, and reflect upon with pleasure: if ladies would throw off formality and restraint, and yet retain gentleness and modest dignity, which find their way to every heart: if every one would enter into company, determined to be pleased,—society would assume a new appearance. No other exertion would be necessary to render it perfectly agreeable, and to make us as celebrated for our charming social intercourse, as we are now for our stupid tea parties. Till these exertions are made, we shall only smile at the complaints of those, who consider themselves bound to endure the present ennui of society.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

From an American Traveller in Europe to his friends in this country.

LETTER TENTH.

Naples, Feb. 7. 1805.

MORALS OF ITALY.—THE WALTZ.

MY DEAR SISTER,

I PROMISED you my observations on the state of morals and manners in Italy. In reply to your queries as to the correctness of the pictures drawn by Moote, Brydone, Smollet, and Mrs. Starke, I would observe, that I think it extremely unfair in a traveller, who visits a foreign country, to whose language he is in a considerable degree a stranger, into whose so-

ciety he can only have a limited and partial admission to draw general and illiberal inferences as to the state of their morals, and the nature of their domestic relations. The very illiberal representations which we have seen made of the manners of our own country by Chastellux, Weld, Parkinson, Liancourt, Bayard, and that execrable German, whose travels were republished in the Port Folio, ought to lead us to be very cautious how we venture upon general descriptions, especially unfavourable ones, of foreign nations. What credit

can we give to narrations of this sort, when we find the most liberal of the abovementioned travellers, Mons. Bayard, gravely telling the citizens of France, that '*Les Americains se mouchent avec des doigts*'? I will not offend the delicacy of your sex, nor raise a blush of indignation, by translating the abominable calumny. Suffice it to say, that a single trait of that kind related by a traveller would be sufficient to convince every Frenchman, that we are but little advanced above our savages.

But although general comments on national manners are, for the reasons I have assigned, improper, unjust, and illiberal, still there are certain leading traits, which he who runs may read, and which he may without risk report. To say, for example, that there is a most ludicrous mixture of superstition and levity in the religious exercises of the Italians, and in their observance of the sabbath, would not be hazardous or illiberal. At the church you would suppose them the most devout and pious people in christendom; walk to the Villa Reale, the publick promenade, and you would say, that religion did not enter into their system. The sabbath is the grand moment of festivity and gaiety; and after the conscience has been once discharged by auricular confession, the only study you would imagine was, how to muster up a good account for the next. The old story of the Cicisbeos is familiar to you. Its repugnance to all our ideas of domestic propriety naturally renders it odious to us. The only question among travellers has been, how far this singular custom extends. Whether it is a merely innocent etiquette? or whether there is that complete corruption of manners, which appearances indicate?

For my own part, though I admit that the question can never be absolutely put at rest, except by those who enter personally into this vortex of folly or vice, yet I entertain no doubts that the intercourse between the sexes is as corrupt as can well be imagined. It would require more candour than I possess to believe, that while human nature is found so frail in all the colder climates, it can preserve its purity in the midst of temptation, in the warm, luxurious climate of Italy; in that Italy, which in all ages has been famed for its voluptuousness.

The attentions, the tenderness, the marks of unceasing affection, which are openly displayed by the cicisbeo towards his favourite fair, must in the end wear the affections of the most virtuous wife from her husband.

When a married woman not only avowedly receives the assiduities of a young unmarried man, but expresses in the warmest language her love, her esteem for him: when she openly acknowledges her jealousy of her illicit lover, and watches his attentions to other ladies with marked dissatisfaction, I must require evidence that human nature is totally reversed in Italy, before I can believe that such connections are innocent.

The subjugation of this country by France, and the introduction of several thousand young, gallant French officers, have not tended much to purify the morals of this nation. France, you may remember, conquered it in the 13th century, and the debauchery of the French nobility excited so much the jealousy of the Italians, that they massacred every Frenchman on Easter eve, while they were at their devotions. Though the character of the Italians has totally

changed, and jealousy has ceased to be one of their vices, yet I much doubt whether the French have lost any thing of their disposition to gallantry, at least appearances do not indicate any such change.

Among the other corrupting fashions, which have been introduced by the French officers, is a lascivious dance called the *waltz*, originally learned by them in Germany, but which is exactly adapted to the taste of a young French officer, who is in quarters in a city full of pretty women, whose morals are loose enough to permit them to join in this dance. As you probably have never seen it, and for the sake of your feelings I pray you never may, I will give you a short description of it, in order that you may form some opinion of the degraded state of morals on the continent of Europe.

In the first place, the ladies are dressed *a la Grecque*; that is to say, with the *least possible attire*, leaving as little room for the imagination as possible, the breast and arms totally exposed, or covered only with gauze or crape. Thus prepared for this embracing dance, the gentleman clasps with both arms the lady firmly round the waist, while she gently passes one of hers around his body, and softly reclines the other upon his neck. You will probably expect some description of an elegant figure, executed with taste, and affording variety and amusement. No; the *attitude* constitutes all the pleasure and all the novelty of the dance. The dancers thus embracing and embraced, begin to turn most furiously, precisely like our Shaking Quakers, and as the motion would make them dizzy, if they did not keep their eyes fixed on some object, which turns as rapidly as them-

selves, they have an apology for the most languishing gazes upon each other. In this state of painful revolution they continue, till nature is exhausted, when the lady is exactly prepared to repose herself, which she does in the arms of her companion. The dance is soon renewed, and, as it has no other termination than the fatigue of the parties, nor any other object than a languishing embrace, it generally continues for several hours, exhibiting neither variety, taste, nor graceful motions. I do not think that it is more indecent to act than it is to see it. The lady or the gentleman, who could do either without a blush, may rely upon it that they are half corrupted.

This dance appears so strongly to resemble the abominable dances of the Bacchanals, that I am persuaded it is derived from that source. It is probable that the Roman officers carried it with their arms into the north of Europe, from whence it is now returned with northern arms to scourge and debase, *if possible still more*, the Italians.

We are so prone to copy all the fashions, and many of the vices of Europe, that I should tremble lest this lascivious and criminal exhibition should make its way into our country. But I console myself with the reflection, that manners must have arrived to an high degree of corruption before such a dance would be publicly permitted; and as I flatter myself, that we are as yet far removed from that state of moral depravity, so I have reason to hope, that it will not be introduced in my day, nor in that of my children.

Should, however, contrary to my hopes and belief, the day arrive, in which a lady of our society will, without blushing, be ready to

embrace a gentleman in publick company, I hope the government will not so far have lost its purity and energy, as to neglect to restrain what private delicacy ought to have prevented. Were I the attorney-general in such a case, I should without hesitation present it to the grand jury, as an offence 'contra bonos mores.' If all this should not avail, and it should become apparent that the flood-gates of vice must be thrown open, I would exert my little influence with the legislature to procure an act to render polygamy lawful, or even to repeal the laws for the preservation of chastity. This I would do upon the conviction, that when morals have descended to a certain degree of debasement, and when vice becomes general and is authorised by law, people will become virtuous by way of distinction.

I beg your pardon for having

drawn a true but disgusting picture of the state of publick morals in some parts of Europe. To a mind pure and virtuous, unsullied and unsuspecting, I know that such representations must be painful; but I thought that your curiosity would be alive on the subject, and that such a picture would tend to make your own situation dear to you. If you should ask, why I am so severe, after my own introductory remarks upon the danger of hasty general conclusions; I answer, that I have noticed only things openly practised, and which every man, who enters one of these cities, must see and know. As to my reflections on these two practices, you will judge whether they are correct or not. I have no personal knowledge of the state of morals here, except what I derive from exteriour manners.

Yours, &c.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 32.

Spargite humum foliis, inducite fortibus umbras.—Virg. Ecl.

DR. JOHNSON'S RASSELAS.

THE tenour of Dr. Johnson's writings is solid sense in solid expression. His imagination rarely extends beyond the compass of real objects, and his mind seems too unwieldy from its own hugeness to chase long the fleet subtilties of metaphysical abstractions. The Adventurer, notwithstanding, contains on perusal all, that every class of readers can wish, whether in search of the precepts of morals, the rules of life, or principles of happiness. If none of his thoughts ever make us start with rapture, he produces in us such firmness

of sense, such concentration of brain, and such universal complacency, that we cannot help feeling, that the result of the whole pleasure is equal to the single and separate delight, enjoyed from writers of a brighter light. His London is rather good verse and close reflection, in imitation of his master, than fine poetick thought; and his Vanity of Human Wishes, and his Irene, seem to confirm the opinion, that the Doctor could rather trace a line of light from a poet's brain, than force such an emanation from his own.

But his Rasselas makes up for

all these deficiencies of imagination. The reader is here, amidst splendour and magnificence, in security and delight. The valley of Amhara lies in brightest perspective before him. He is surrounded by mountains, which bear up the white clouds of a summer's sky; and his eye moves on the surface of rivers, gliding gently by banks, varied with every luxuriance, or reposes on the smooth lake, reflecting vines clustering with grapes, and trees blazing with fruit on its margin. The bleatings of flocks on the mountains, and the merry notes of the birds in the valley fill his ear with delight. He is now glowing under the warmth of a gentle sun, or loitering to the deep grove, where 'the solemn elephant reposes in the shade.' In the midst of this clear extent of landscape, he approaches the palace of the princes of Abyssinia, and the wild sounds of a thousand harps rise on his ear. Its massy columns and deep entablatures impose on him a solemn gloom. Its halls and saloons extend before him in all the pomp of magnificence, glittering with millions of gems. Its apartments are ranged with furnitures, hung with every embellishment, and suited to every convenience, with sofas and couches, inviting fatigue to ease, and softening ease into voluptuousness. Every fruit that is golden ripe, blushing in baskets of silver, makes the palate quicken with desire; and flowers of every hue, blended together in vases of sapphire, exhaust their sweetness in filling the air with their fragrance. They, who inhabit the palace of Amhara, are blessed beyond the lot of mortals. Pride is here satisfied with magnificence, and the desire of pleasure is exceeded in enjoyment.

He, who can, by the magick of intellect, strike into view a charm like this, if not a poet, is surely not less than one.

—
THE TRAGEDY OF TITUS ANDRONICUS.

The commentators seem generally to coincide in the opinion, that this bloody tragedy does not belong to Shakespeare; though there seems to be some variance amongst them with regard to certain passages, by which they undertake to show, that he had some concern in it. It seems incontrovertibly proved, that this is the same Titus Andronicus, that Ben Jonson alludes to, in his prologue to Bartholomew's Fair, as having then been played twenty-five years previously, and that Shakespeare had not commenced author, when it was produced. Amongst the arguments of the commentators, to prove it spurious, are conclusions which are beyond doubt; but although they have thrown up so much vapour on the subject, they have never been able to cloud the light, that shoots from this collection of darkness in its many bright passages. The character of tragedy is in the power of the plot, and continuity of the fable, so as to produce the strongest evolutions of the soul, pity and terror. This is Aristotle's golden rule, and it must ever remain the *sine qua non* of tragedy. The great critick makes sentiment and language secondary objects altogether, and merely the conductors of the story. One of the great peculiarities of Shakespeare is in the masterly conducting of his fable, and in the strong and leading effects of his plot. No one, however skilful in dramattick learning, has approached him nearer in these, than they have in thought. His

periphrasis, which is the very soul of tragedy, and the great and only principle of sympathy, is universally irresistible. The want of all these essentials is so evident in the play of Titus Andronicus, that no one could, a second time, think that the fabrication was Shakespeare's. The fable has nothing to mark its progress but a stream of blood, and the plot consists rather in cutting out tongues, chopping off hands, and making pies of the heads of Chron and Demetrius, which their mother Tamora banquets upon, than in the entanglement of the passions. Still it seems probable, from some very peculiar passages, and from some glimpses of light, which seem to have emanated only from the bright and eternal sun of his genius, that Shakespeare might have added something to this play, when it was presented to be exhibited by the players, with whom he was associated.

There are a few circumstances about some lines in this play, which bear a striking relation to the great poet,

She is a woman, therefore may be wooed ;

She is a woman, therefore may be won.

Now if these lines really belonged to the true author, would Shakespeare have condescended to use them, as he does in the first part of Henry sixth ?

She is beautiful, therefore to be wooed ;
She is a woman, therefore to be won.

But we well know that he very frequently uses the same figures and the same expression in different plays. There are two more circumstantial ones. Shakespeare's deer-stealing was undoubtedly the frolick of a young man, rather than depravity ; the lines referred

to seem to have come from him with that impression.

What, hast thou not full often struck a doe,
And borne her cleanly by the keeper's nose ?

What I esteem the bright touches of this great master of poetick painting are these :

Wherefore look'st thou sad ?
When every thing doth make a gleeful boast ?
The birds chant melody on every bush,
The snake lics rolled in the cheerful sun,
The green leaves quiver in the cooling breeze,
And make a chequer'd shadow on the ground ;
Under their sweet shade, Aaron, let us sit,
And whilst the babbling echo mocks the bounds,
Replying shrilly to the well tun'd horns,
As if a double hunt were heard at once,
Let us sit down, and mark their yelling noise ;
And after conflict, such as was supposed
The wandering prince and Dido once enjoy'd,
When with a happy storm they were surpris'd
And curtain'd with a council-keeping cave ;
We may, each wreathed in the other's arms,
Our pastimes done, possess a golden slumber,
While hounds, and horns, and sweet melodious birds,
Be unto us, as is a nurse's song
Of lullaby, to bring her babe asleep.
Act 2, Sc. 3.

Have I not reason, think you, to look pale ?
These two have 'tic'd me hither to this place,
A barren and detested vale, you see it is :
The trees, though summer, yet forlorn and lean,
O'ercome with moss and baleful mistletoe ;
Here never shines the sun, here nothing breeds,
Unless the nightly owl, or fatal raven.
A.

Upon his bloody finger he doth wear
A precious ring, that lightens all the
hole,
Which, like a taper in some monument,
Doth shine upon the dead man's earthy
cheeks,
And shows the ragged entrails of this
pit.

Scene 4.

And he hath cut those pretty fingers off.
Oh, had the monster seen those lily
hands
Tremble, like aspen leaves, upon a lute,
And make the silken strings delight to
kiss them,
He would not have touch'd them for
his life ;
Or had he heard the heavenly harmony,
Which that sweet tongue hath made,
He would have dropp'd his knife, and
fell asleep,
As Cerberus at the Thracian poet's
feet.

Id.

POLITICKS.

' I saw a smith stand with his hammer
thus,
The whilst his iron did on the anvil
cool,
With open mouth swallowing a tailor's
news !'

Colloquial politicks, by which I mean the slang of citizens about the evolutions of the world, and the manœuvres of their own government and country, have made with us thousands of blockheads, and crammed the heads of men of good sense with more stuff, than ever a quack packed into the stomach of a sick man. This delightful liberty of speech, and liberty of the press, make up a great part of the nonsense and rodomontade of 'Hail, Columbia.' We are all politicians, from a senator to a tailor, and all senators, from a tailor to the gentlemanly learned. But what national dignity can be expected from a country, where there are so many hundreds of political methodists, canting about universal liberty, promiscuous equality ; and preaching about political milleniums, the new light of reason, republican purity, and the diffusion

of knowledge throughout the country ? How happy and peculiar is our state, that Colin Clout can spell out a long-winded newspaper column, stale from the head of a printer's devil, into the ear of Blouzilinda, while she is scouring her milk-pails ! What can be more absurd than this diffusion of Dilworth learning, to clowns, who ought to be brightening their plow-shares, instead of dog-eating their spelling-book. From this, we see postmen drawing the latchet of a log-house, and leaving the ' *prins*,' for its gaunt and poverty-struck tenant to labour through, by the light of a pine-knot flambeau. How improving to the morals, when the landlord of a village-tavern, mounted in his bar, and showing through the casement a hugh ruby face, which looks very like his demijcan of brandy, begins to flame at the mouth with a political harangue, and when the point is finally to be settled, at the hazard of some dozen *knips of aling*, and quarts of *black strap*.

Our cities are not less infected with this political virus, than our villages. A whining town-meeting orator is in the same ratio of noise and disturbance with the Boniface described. Our caucus, instead of being the Caucasus of old, where the Gods met together to decide on the affairs of this world, is now the aldermens' hall, whose walls are stained with the smoke of roast beef, and 'smell woundedly' of the breath of fat and greasy citizens. You cannot, in these political days, set at table to your wine a minute, after the cloth is removed, before a heavy pair of lungs rear on your ear a patriotick toast, and then comes a song, or rather an ode for the occasion, from the nose of a twanging psalm-singer ; in the midst of which you

are forced up from your seat, in the ardour of the times, and of a sudden find your hand frying in the greasy palm of a patriot citizen. If we are destined always to such a yankee-doodle state of things, what wise man would wish to exclaim, with father Paul, for his country, *esto perperua?*

—
THE ÆOLIAN HARP.

This instrument was invented by Kircher, 1649. After having been laid by, for a hundred years, it was again accidentally discovered and restored by Mr. Oswald. The lovers of pure tones and simple melody have gained more delight in this little instrument, than can be drawn from all others, however skilful be their combinations. Its sounds are as wild as the wind that blows upon it, and as mysterious as its source. There is a spell in them, which seems to entice away our very souls, and bewilder our whole frame. I can suck melancholy from it till my heart sinks. In the stillness of evening, how tenderly does it breathe forth its tones, till they faintly sink away into the most mysterious pauses, and melt and mingle with the air. At midnight how often have I loved to place it at my casement, and as the wild wind swept over its chords, how have I felt my spirit loosened from myself, taking flight through the heavens on its continuous vibrations. Smollet somewhere says, that a woman in love cannot be trusted with this instrument: to a melancholy man it is equally dangerous; for what nature can withstand that, which even charms the air, and detains the breeze, sighing and lingering on its chords.

Thomson and Mason seem to have enjoyed equal delight from the æolian harp. Thomson, in one

stanza is compelled to renounce his muse, when under its charm.

Let me, ye wandering spirits of the wind,
Who, as wild fancy prompts you, touch
the string,
Smit with your theme, be in your chorus joined,
For, till you cease, my muse forgets to sing.

In the Castle of Indolence he has this beautiful description of it.

A certain musick, never known before,
Here called the pensive melancholy mind,
Full easily obtained. Behoves no more,
But sidelong to the gently moving wind
To lay the well tuned instrument reclined,
From which, with airy flying fingers light,
Beyond each mortal touch, the most refined,
The God of winds drew sounds of deep delight,
Whence with just cause the Harp of Æolus is hight.

Mason, in his ode to this Harp, describes its mysterious influence with poetical nicety, as affecting us most sweetly

With many a warble wild, and artless air.

—
ONE'S SELF.

There is no reflection, which confers such perfect dignity on ourselves, and which draws with it such an association of delightful thoughts and anticipations, as that of our own individuality; the consciousness of a separate being, created, and existing independent of all; and of every other one, but of him, from whom we sprung, and to whom we are to return. It is perhaps the operation of this consciousness, which has made enthusiasts, recluses and hermits; who, without doubt, have received more happiness in solitude, filled

with the presence of their own nature, than the world could afford them. But it is not necessary, in the complete enjoyment of this emotion, that one should be distanced from the world in the depth of a forest, or be screened from it by the walls of a cave. A man may withdraw himself into hermitage, by abstracting himself from what is frivolous in life; and retiring to the cell of his own bosom, he may hold pure and holy communion with his own being. There is then an uninterrupted complacency, a silent dignity, and a majesty of character, which make him justly proud of himself, and revered by the world. There is no maxim of life

so constantly proved, as, that too much familiarity breeds contempt. Half the little annoyances of life, which in their aggregate make up a large portion of our real suffering, are brought on ourselves by making our private, and peculiar thoughts common, and general, thereby letting others know as much, as we know of ourselves. How rapid and empty is life, if we have not in reserve for ourselves, in lonely hours, when we are weary of the world, certain dignities and consolations of thought, which belong only to our own nature, and which constitute the sovereignty of one's self.

TENHOVE.

TENHOVE is a short and very imperfect account of this ingenious man prefixed to the *Memoirs of the House of Medicis*, written by Dr. Maclaine, the translator and annotator of Mosheim. The following account of him has been obligingly communicated, by a gentleman who knew him well, and accompanied him in his travels through Italy and Sicily.

Tenhove was born in Holland of a noble family, and by his mother's side was related to Fagel the Grand Pensionary, or first minister of the United Provinces. He was perhaps the most elegant, if not the most profound scholar of his age or country. He was so thoroughly skilled in the classicks, that every ancient author was familiar to him, though he principally delighted in poetry and the belles-lettres. He was so passionate an admirer of Horace, that he could repeat almost every line in that poet. He was also intimately acquainted with the modern languages of Italy, Germany, France, and

England. The literature of this latter country was in particular a favourite subject with him. Shakespeare, whom he always considered the true poet of nature, was long his peculiar study. French he both spoke and wrote with so much fluency and ease, as not to be distinguished from a native of France. It was in the language of that country that he wrote his history. His very affluent fortune enabled him to travel in the most sumptuous style, and accompanied by a numerous train of friends and domesticks. On his return from Sicily, he imprudently ventured to explore the antiquities of Pestum. The consequence proved fatal to many of his party, who fell victims to the mal-aria of that destructive spot. Tenhove himself did not escape. Though not immediately fatal, the cruel disorder hung on him ever after. He lingered but a very few years after his return to Holland.

As a finished scholar and an elegant writer, he may perhaps rank

with the best authors of the last century. He has however left little behind him. His House of Medici, by which he is best known, is an unfinished work, and consists of an undigested mass of materials, which he would have expanded into a regular narrative, had he lived. This want of method, however, is compensated by the elegance of the style, the beauty of the classical allusions, and the taste the author every where displays for the fine arts. A principal merit is in the short, but correct and pleasing accounts, which he gives of the literati and virtuosi, who lived during the time of the Medici, or were patronised by them. Tenhove's

taste in painting and poetry was exquisite; and his love for the arts, and his veneration for the great men who made them flourish, have drawn him into digressions and detached chapters out of all bounds. In fact, the historical is the least considerable part of his work. This has compelled his translator, Sir Richard Clayton, to make several additions in the body of the work for the purpose of connecting the narrative, and to illustrate it by copious notes. Such as it is, however, this history would have had many readers, and as many admirers, had it not been too near contemporary with the elegant and classical work of Mr. Roscoe.

For the Anthology

FRENCH LITERATURE.

THE brilliant age of Louis the Fourteenth had scarcely passed away, when the French nation had reason to complain of a sensible decline in the arts and in letters: Already false wit appeared under various forms. Ignorance, her faithful companion, had already presented her fantastick innovations as bold inventions, and decorated her subtleties with the name of philosophy. It was not that sound philosophy, that perfection of good sense, which forms the characteristic trait of the productions of genius; it was the ingenuity of perverted reason; it was bad sense in luxuriant language, corrupt taste in principles, and sophistry in all its cunning. Some persons, superior to the charlatany of *bel esprit*, sufficiently fortified by their own talents to resist its usurpations, or whose incorruptible taste still preserved the sacred fire of standard authorities,

yet struggled with success against the enemies of good sense; but the licentiousness of manners, so horrible under the regency, combated victoriously in favour of every licentious doctrine which it authorised, and, from the commencement of the world, the triumph of bad taste and licentious opinions has accompanied in the same car the triumph of corrupt morals. How powerfully must this contagion have acted upon the best understandings, when no character, of real reputation, in the eighteenth century, was entirely free from the infection! when there was not scarcely one man of letters, whose reason or taste was not bewildered about some literary or philosophical opinion! Without speaking of the many bold opinions of Montesquieu or Buffon, we well know their prejudices against poesy, or at least the insensibility which they affected to the sweet charms of

harmonious verse. The eccentricities of the citizen of Geneva has not spared Moliere or La Fontaine. Electra and Catalina do not attest less to the ignorance, than the genius of their author ; and, without mentioning the errors and defects of other men of an inferiour grade, who has more contributed to the corruption of morals and good sense, than the detractor of Athalie, the commentator of Corneille, and the author of La Pucelle ?

However much we may find to admire in the writings of Voltaire, every one will acknowledge, that there is infinitely more for our unqualified execration: That he has contributed greatly, especially in France, to the prevailing depravity both in taste and manners ; that he is far from being a perfect model, with the exception of his tragedies, in any species of composition ; and that no writings are more obviously calculated than his, to promote a spirit of libertinism and infidelity. Deeply impressed, with the truth of these sentiments, a distinguished countryman of Voltaire, Mons. Clement (of whose information in his sketch of French literature at the commencement of the 18th century, I have availed myself in the foregoing observations) published at Paris, in 1770, in a series of letters addressed to Voltaire, a critical inquiry into his character, considering him as a poet, a dramatick writer, an historian, &c. He enters into a full examination of Voltaire's works, not with a view to depreciate them, but to shew that he ought, by no means to be considered as the great master of French literature and poetry, and to point out the numerqus blemishes in his best poetical productions ; blemishes which, he says, are owing to a passion for *bel esprit*, the most formidable enemy

to nature and genius. Of the productions of his dotage, out of tenderness to him, he takes no notice ; they are only fit indeed to regale the giddy, the unprincipled, the libertine, and the debauchee. Like a generous and spirited adversary, Mons. C. attacks him in his strong holds, the works of his better days, when his genius was in its full bloom and vigour. In the first letter M. Clement considers Voltaire's literary politicks, and the influence they have had upon the taste and manners of his age. I have thought that many of the readers of the Anthology might be highly pleased with this part of the work, as it throws much light upon the philosophical and literary history of France, and therefore have sent it to you, requesting its publication. PASCAL.

MONS. CLEMENT TO VOLTAIRE.
SIR,

1. When you made your first appearance on our literary theatre, the great men of the last age were in their graves ; but their memories were highly respected, and there were still left some happy geniuses, who were of opinion that no solid and durable glory was to be acquired but by following their steps. You, at first, seemed to be of the same opinion ; and your first tragedy, notwithstanding its great faults, (pardonable at your age) shewed that you was in the right road ; and led the publick to entertain hopes that you would surpass, or at least equal Corneille and Racine in the most splendid part of their career ; but you went no farther ; and *Oedipus*, if I mistake not, is your master-piece. This success, at your first setting out, great and deserved, as it was, dazzled your eyes, and inspired you, all at once, with the most extravagant hopes. You no long-

er made the same efforts to tread, with firm and steady steps, in the paths of your models; but you indulged and gave way to the facility of your genius. Too much confidence in your own strength made you stumble several times, and three or four tragedies, which followed your *Œdipus*, had either no success at all, or met with that cold reception which they deserved.

Your ambition was to be thought possessed of talents for every species of composition; you aspired to the sole monarchy of Parnassus; and, in order to support such ambitious pretensions, you had recourse to different means. The attention and the taste of the publick were to be withdrawn from those master-pieces which were its delight; and the shortest way of attaining this end was to disparage them. But this was not to be done openly; artful management was necessary. There were still left some persons of distinguished abilities, who were warm admirers of those great men whom you wanted to discredit, & it would neither have been safe nor prudent to provoke such formidable adversaries. Accordingly you commended, at first, with a very prudent modesty, both the great masters of antiquity, and those of the glorious age of Lewis the Fourteenth. It was your boast that you took these for your models; you acknowledged their astonishing superiority; but, on the other hand, you lost no opportunity of turning them into ridicule, and of endeavouring to corrupt the judgment of the publick in regard to them.

You treated Homer as a silly, prattling fellow, and gave the preference to *Tasso*. You laughed at *Pindar*, and sometimes at *Horace*, and especially at lyric poetry, which you have always affected to despise.

After bestowing great encomiums on the Greek tragedians, you took care to insinuate that their manner is often dry and declamatory. In order to indemnify yourself for the general praises you bestowed upon *Corneille*, *Racine* and *Boileau*, you seldom failed to magnify their faults, or to ascribe to them, what they are not chargeable with.

You preferred *Lamotte* to *Rousseau*, at a time when the publick had forgot *Lamotte*. The high reputation of *Crebillon* was very troublesome to you; you did not dare to give open vent to your jealousy of a rival who was so much applauded. You called him your master in publick, whilst you were privately disseminating criticisms on his performances.

You was the author of an anonymous work, now almost entirely forgotten, (*Connoissance des beautés & des défauts de la poésie Française*, &c.) in which it was said, in almost every page,—"observe, how much more sublime Voltaire is than *Corneille*, how much more pathetic he is than *Racine*, how much he surpasses *Crebillon* in strength and energy!—See how much more natural he is than *La Fontaine*, how much more eloquent than *Bossuet*, how much more elegant than *Fenelon*, &c."

Still, however, you concealed your design, while you was secretly scattering abroad the seeds of those opinions that were favourable to yourself. Had any one reproached you for your injustice, for so bold and decisive a tone, you could have cleared yourself by shewing him passages, in your writings, which proved you to be of quite different sentiments.

This policy proved successful, and you pleased the different parties in literature. Some thought you in the right way, on account of

the frequent and pompous display you made of your love of good principles and good taste, while others flattered themselves that you was of their party, on account of the sly and malignant hints you threw out, with great dexterity, against those of whom you entertained any jealousy.

At length, when you had no longer any thing to fear; when you perceived that the number of your disciples and admirers was increased; when you observed that they trumpeted your praises, and registered your decrees, you threw off the mask, you laid aside all constraint and dissimulation; you exerted your utmost efforts to discredit the ancients, in order the more easily to disparage those illustrious moderns who gloried in imitating them; — *quolibets, plus-anteries, traductions ridicules, tout vous fut bon.*

You compared Eachylus to Calderon; you travestied the sublime passages of the Iliad and Odyssey; you said that La Fontaine was not one of the great geniuses of the age of Lewis the Fourteenth; you told us that there was no enthusiasm in Boileau's poetry; you treated Rousseau as a versifier, who neither knew philosophy, poetry, his own language, nor the age he lived in, &c. &c.

You flattered yourself, that these new opinions, published with a magisterial air, and supported by the weight of your authority, would become laws for literature; and that the judgment of the present age, and that of posterity, being thus gradually formed upon yours, all other books would be buried for ever in the most profound oblivion, and none read but your own.

As to the present age, your expectations have not been disappointed. The number of those who examine, who think and judge for

themselves, is at present very small. 'Tis a much shorter and easier way to retain your light and bold decisions, and, after you, to pass sentence, without appeal, upon writers of the most exalted genius.

Accordingly, a thousand echoes have been heard repeating your different opinions; verses have been crowned at the academy, in which Lucan and Tasso were preferred to Virgil; and Boileau was treated as a writer without fire or imagination; a party has been formed to raise Quinault to the rank of great poets, and to make him at least equal to Racine; we have seen mere geometricians setting up for judges of poetry, and with all the sang-froid imaginable, laying down the most ridiculous precepts concerning an art as distant from them as Euclid is from Homer.

He who has read your works, is thought to know every thing. The principles of good taste are forgotten; the reading and the imitation of the illustrious writers of antiquity are slighted and neglected, and those who recommend them are looked upon as pedants. In a word, sir, you have seen the present docile age adapt your decisions implicitly, and form its taste upon yours. Your literary opinions have produced such a revolution, and reduced us to such a degree of bad taste, that nothing but an age of barbarism and profound ignorance can make us forget so many absurdities, and restore us to a capacity of having juster notions, a sounder judgment, and a more natural taste.

Happy would it be for us, were this general depravity confined to matters of mere taste and ornament; these, 'tis true, are connected with the glory of a nation, but they are not essential to man; he may be deprived of them, without any loss to his virtue or his happi-

ness. The mortal blow that your writings have given to the morals of this age and nation, is a dreadful calamity, and perhaps an irreparable one. It can give no pleasure to a generous mind to present so melancholy and deplorable a picture to publick view; I shall, therefore, only consider the fatal effects which your writings have had on the fair sex, and on the young and inexperienced; for such principally are the readers whom you have a right to please, by the levity, and I will be bold to say, by the frivolousness, of your wit.

I am at a loss to account for it, but so it is, that women, in general prefer a forward, silly, impertinent fellow, to a wise, discreet, and sensible man. Two gentlemen, we shall suppose, are introduced into a company of ladies, even *the most virtuous*, if you will; the one is possessed of agreeable and elegant talents, but sedate, reserved, solid, and knows when it is proper to speak, and when to be silent: the other is bold, petulant, talks much, treats the gravest subjects with indecent and illiberal drollery, exercises his railery upon those who are present, calumniate those who are absent, attends to nothing but what he says himself, and is the first to laugh at his own silly jokes; the ladies will neither have eyes nor ears for the former; and though he may have some small share of their esteem, yet they will ever, through I know not what strange propensity, find themselves most favourably disposed to the latter.

Don't smile, sir, this fable is your own history. Your lively wit, your liberthism, your bold

* The reader will bear in mind that our Author is a Frenchman, and may probably, have formed his ideas of the fair sex from what he has observed of his countrywomen.

and assuming manner, your decisive tone, the levity of your imagination, your free and familiar humour, have turned the heads of the generality of our ladies. Such are the charms wherewith you have gained their hearts, and which render your works their chief study and delight. You have taught the most dangerous of all lessons for them; you have taught them to laugh at every thing, to turn into ridicule what is not susceptible of ridicule; and to reason upon what they ought to revere with humble and submissive silence.

In such a school they soon learn to shake off all those principles that are so uneasy and troublesome to their sex; to treat as mere chimeras, those rigid laws of modesty and decorum which nature, they say, has no more imposed upon their sex than the other; to analyse their duties, and, in conformity to your maxims, to reduce them to very narrow bounds; to consider the dominion of men over women as an absurd and silly prejudice; they learn to reason and decide upon every thing; to be *beau-espants* and *philosophers*; to talk with as much levity upon the *system of Nature* as upon a novel or a play; to speak upon the most serious and important subjects, as they would upon an *ariette* or a *song*; and to instil their notable maxims into the minds of their children and domesticks, who receive them greedily, and whose understandings and hearts are depraved before they can well distinguish between good and evil.

I am far from meaning to include all the ladies in this censure which, unfortunately, is too well grounded, but which would be unjust, without some exception. There is still, undoubtedly, a great number of ladies of respectable

characters, who cultivate those virtues which adorn their sex and condition; who are free from that silly and indecent ambition of being thought philosophers and *beaux-esprits*; who read and study, in order to know and love their duty; who cultivate their understandings, in order to be established in good principles; and who, without desiring to be free-thinkers, are satisfied with being virtuous women and reasonable creatures.

I ask pardon of the rest for drawing a picture which bears so strong a resemblance to the original. It is contrary, I well know, to the laws of French gallantry to tell ladies their faults, whatever they may be, or to mention disagreeable truths in a publick manner; but I beg of them to consider that, as they are ambitious of laying aside their sex, in order to become men and philosophers, they have placed us a little more at our ease with them, and have given us a right to talk to them with less reserve, less gallantry, and a more manly freedom.

What I have said of the ladies, may, in some measure, be applied to our youth, who receive their tone from the fair sex. They have scarce left college when they commence your disciples, and the fatal effects of this first step are but too visible. They begin with despising all the salutary instructions they formerly received; call every thing pedantry that is not libertinism and infidelity; and, in a little time, by treating every thing serious as mere prejudice, they come to think themselves philosophers, and call themselves so. They have no longer any moral principles to make them uneasy, no checks or restraints upon their passions; and provided they can elude the laws, their conscience is

perfectly at ease. They talk upon the gravest subjects with a levity that has nothing to equal it but their ignorance. Low, insipid raillery, common-place jokes, hackneyed *bon-mots*, supply the place of arguments, even on the most sacred topics. If they attempt to reason, it is with a confidence, a good opinion of themselves, still more ridiculous, if possible, than their pretended wit and humour. They flatter themselves that they comprehend the most incomprehensible things, though they remain ignorant of some of the most common; they pretend to calculate, define, and know every thing, and yet entertain doubts concerning the most obvious truths; they despise and forget their duties; extinguish the light of nature; stifle the good principles that were instilled into them in the early part of life; perplex and confound their understandings; lose all sensibility of heart, and every idea of virtue and morality. They become, in a word, useless or pernicious to society; hateful and troublesome to themselves; lose all relish for life, and at last have recourse to a halter or a pistol, in order to deliver themselves from the insupportable burthen of living alone.

What sentiments, sir, must we entertain of you and your philosophers, if such deplorable evils can only be imputed to the contagious licentiousness of your writings? But I shall dwell no longer upon the horrid profligacy which the rage of impiety has introduced into our manners. Every good man sees and laments it. How many worthy and virtuous parents are there who, in the anguish of their hearts, are weeping over the depravity of their children, and who have a right to impute it to your works.

THE BOSTON REVIEW,

FOR

OCTOBER, 1807.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui amotavi, que commutanda, que excimenda, arbitrarer. Nam ego dicere verum assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ART. 59.

Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Vol. VIII. Boston, Munroe & Francis. 8vo. pp. 284. 1802.

SOME former reviews of the 'Historical Collections' have been prefaced with notices of the society, and of the general utility of their labours. It is not necessary, therefore, in this continuation of the series, to make any preliminary observations. In conformity to the usual method, (see Rev. 1807, art. 34. p. 223) we proceed, then, to the several articles, in this *penult* volume.

1. On 'Remarks upon remarks, &c.' we shall offer *no remarks*, either on the *lucid* style, *mild* temper, *grammatical* accuracy, or *logical* precision, which the author of the 'History of Salem' here exhibits. The editing committee have assigned, in a note, good reasons for closing this altercation; and we certainly have no disposition to resume it.

2. 'Historical account of John Eliot, the first minister of the church in Roxbury, &c.' This biography is valuable and interesting; with much amusing and useful anecdote of contemporary characters and events, is given a good

sketch of the 'Apostle of America.' He was born in England, 1604; educated at the university of Cambridge; arrived at Boston, 1631; settled, as teacher, in Roxbury, 1632; was one of the three who composed the 'New-England version of the Psalms,' in 1639; Oct. 1646, he first preached to the natives, from Ezek. xxxvii. 9; published his translation of the bible into the Indian language, 1663; and died 1690. The following extracts will exhibit the prominent traits of this founder of a family renowned in the New-England churches. The observations evince an intimacy with the human heart; the easy eloquence of the style proves the writer's familiarity with classick lore:

'From his contemporaries, and from his writings, we learn, that he always preached in a plain manner, but had a happy facility of communicating his ideas upon subjects adapted for his people. He was warm and diffusive, tender and pathetick, rather copious than correct in his language; but though his style was not varied with much art, his publick performances were acceptable in all the churches. His method was natural, his expression easy, his voice audible, and his manner very interesting. Out of the abundance of his heart his mouth spake, in preaching and praying; and no pastor of New-England saw more of the fruit of his

labours. His discourses are without those quibbles, gingling words, and quaint turns, which mark the false taste of the age; but were as common in English as in American sermons.' p. 23.

'As to his moral and Christian character, it was as exemplary as his ministerial qualifications were excellent. His mind was governed by a sense of duty, and not a mere ease and complacency of humour, which make a man good-natured when he is pleased, and patient when he has nothing to vex him. He brought his religion into all his actions. A stranger to artifice and deceit, he disliked the appearance of them in others. He felt equal obligations to perform the duties of piety, virtue, and benevolence. Such was the man. He clothed himself with humility as with a robe.' p. 25.

'It becomes necessary to mark the minute circumstances of a person's character, if we would obtain just views of his temper and actions. Hence biography differs from history, whose province is to describe great events which elevate the mind of the reader; and which require a dignity of manner with the glow of sentiment. But in the narrative of private life, we survey the man in all his various attitudes, frequently without a design to point a moral. We follow him through the vales and descents of his situation, and feel interested in every thing which concerns him, till, by dwelling upon *faded* images, he grows into a familiar acquaintance.

Most men have their oddities and strange humours. Among the prejudices of Mr. Eliot was one very strong against *wearing wigs*. He preached against it; he prayed against it; he thought all the calamities of the country, even Indian wars, might be traced to this absurd fashion.

His prejudices were as strong against the use of tobacco. He thought it was a sacrifice of precious time—a silly amusement, disgusting in itself; that christians ought not to become slaves to such a pernicious weed, and besotted by its influence. But he might as well have preached to the moon, as to resist the tide of fashion; or fought with the stars in their courses, as to struggle with the pride of opinion, or the appetites of sense; and try to persuade men not to use a weed which

carries a chain with it for its intoxicating quality; which equally tends to exhilarate their spirits and amuse their leisure hours.' pp. 26, 27, 28.

'Though he lived many years, they were filled with usefulness; succeeding generations mentioned his name with uncommon respect; his labours were applauded in Europe and America; and all who now contemplate his active services, his benevolent zeal, his prudence, his upright conduct, his charity, are ready to declare his memory precious. Such a man will be handed down to future times, an object of admiration and love; and appear conspicuous in the historick page when distant ages celebrate the *Worthies of New-England*.' p. 32.

3. 'Governour Dudley's letter to the Countess of Lincoln.' Such documents are invaluable as curiosities to the antiquary, and aids to the historian. Such will turn to the entire copy, which, if our limits would allow, would be quoted with delight. A brief specimen or two must satisfy other readers, that it is a pleasant and useful narrative, correctly and humourously related:

'Boston in New-England, March 12th, 1630.

'For the satisfaction of your honour, and some friends, and for the use of such as shall hereafter intend to increase our plantation in New-England, I have in the throng of domestick, and not altogether free from publick business, thought fit to commit to memory our present condition, and what hath befallen us since our arrival here; which I will do shortly, after my usual manner, and must do rudely, having yet no table, nor other room to write in, than by the fire-side upon my knee, in this sharp winter; to which my family must have leave to resort, though they break good manners, and make me many times forget what I would say, and say what I would not.

'If any come hither to plant for worldly ends, that can live well at home, he commits an error, of which he will soon repent him: But if for spiritual, and that no particuler obstacle hinder his removal, he may find

here what may well content us, viz. materials to build, & fuel to burn, ground to plant, seas and rivers to fish in, a pure air to breath in, good water to drink, till wine or beer can be made; which together with the cows, hogs, and fowls brought hither already, may suffice for food; as for fowl and venison, they are rarities here as well as in England. For cloaths and bedding, they must bring them with them; till time and industry produce them here. In a word, we yet enjoy little to be envied, but endure much to be pitied in the sickness and mortality of our people.

Upon the eighth of March, from afternoon it was fair day-light, until about eight of the clock in the forenoon, there flew over all the towns in our plantations, so many flocks of doves, each flock containing many thousands, and some so many, that they obscured the light; that it passeth credit, if but the truth should be written; and the thing was the more strange, because I scarce remember to have seen ten doves since I came into the country; they were all turtles, as appeared by divers of them we killed flying; some what bigger than those of Europe, and they flew from the north-east, to the south-west; but what it portends, I know not.

4. 'Historical sketch of Col. Ephraim Williams, and of Williams college.' This is an article of considerable intrinsic worth in its connection with the former, it forcibly recalled a text, which, opposed as we are to fight or its reverent scriptura allusions, we cannot but repeat, as a familiar Jewish proverb, descriptive of our sensations from the contrast. 'No one having drank old wine, straightway desireth new, for he saith the old is better.'

5. 'Topographical and historical account of Marblehead.' An excellent article of this sort, and particularly valuable for the ecclesiastical history and biography. The writer with characteristic modesty and candour, acknowledges much aid received from a

M.S. of the late venerable Barnard. He has richly repaid his obligations by a just and generous tribute of affection and respect to this distinguished minister.

In the year 1714, Mr. Cheever, being aged, though not otherwise infirm, the church invited candidates to preach; and after hearing several well accomplished young men, made choice of Mr. John Barnard, for their assistant pastor; he was born in Boston, 1681, and died in January, 1770, at Marblehead. His education was begun at the grammar-school in Boston, and in the year 1696 he entered Harvard College, where he graduated in the year 1700. This man was reckoned famous among the divines of our country, and was looked up to as the father of the churches, during the latter part of his life; having a vigour of mind and zeal uncommon at such an age. His stature was remarkably erect, and never bent under the infirmities of eighty-eight years. His countenance was grand, his mien majestic, and there was a dignity in his whole deportment. His presence restrained every imprudent and folly of youth; and when the aged saw him, they arose and stood up.

Beside single discourses, a volume of sermons upon 'the mystery of the gospel,' another on 'the imperfection of the creature,' and one upon 'the confirmation of the christian religion,' show his theological knowledge, and good talents for composition. His style of writing is diffuse and plain, but warm and energetick. As a poet, he did not make the figure which he did as a di-

6. 'The family of Cheevers have been remarkable for longevity. The famous Ezekiel Cheever, author of the *Accidence, Scripture Prophecies, &c.* was the father of Mr. Cheever of Marblehead. He died in the year 1708, aged ninety-four. He had been for seventy years a school-master, first at New-Haven, in the year 1637; then at Ipswich; then at Charlestown; and from the year 1670 to his death was preceptor of Boston grammar-school. There have been several of the family who died near ninety, and at fourscore. They were equally remarkable for splendid health while they lived, as for the number of years.'

ised their fathers; a resemblance, which at this day, will constitute no impeachment of either their virtue or taste. p. 125.

Within the course of the past thirty years frequent attempts have been made to manufacture marine salt from sea water. During the late war with Great Britain, when this necessary article was scarce and dear, it was sometimes produced, particularly in the county of Barnstable, by boiling the salt water. But the salt obtained was impure; and as the operation was expensive, it was discontinued at the peace. Several years ago, General Palmer, a worthy and enterprising gentleman, undertook to make salt by the sun alone in the marshes on Boston neck, where the vestiges of his works are still to be seen. But as they were not covered from the rain, the attempt proved abortive. The only person who has been completely successful in obtaining pure marine salt, by the rays of the sun alone, without the aid of artificial heat, is Capt. John Sears, of Suet, a part of Dennis.

The salt produced resembles Lisbon salt, but is purer, is strong, and free from lime. The mean weight of a bushel of it is eighty pounds.

The history of Dennis is short. In the year 1721, the east part of Yarmouth was set off as a precinct; and June 19, 1793, it was incorporated into a town.

The church was gathered, and the first pastor, Rev. Josiah Dennis, was ordained, June 22d, 1727. Mr. Dennis died August 31st, 1763, in the sixty-ninth year of his age. The inhabitants have manifested their respect to his memory by naming their town after him.

The present pastor, Rev. Nathaniel Stone, was ordained Oct. 17th, 1764.—*Vir humilis, mitis, blandus, advenarum hospes; suis commotis in terra non studens, reconditis thesauris in celo.*

pp. 135, 137, 140.

The planters of Eastham having obtained possession of the township, both by act of the legislature and by purchase from the natives, proceeded to cultivate their lands. A church was gathered soon after their arrival; but the inhabitants were not sufficiently numerous to support a minister of religion till the year 1672, when the Rev.

Samuel Treat was ordained. This gentleman is entitled to a distinguished rank among the evangelists of New-England; and by his zeal and labours, he not only converted many of the Indians to the faith which he embraced, but he was also the happy instrument of reducing them to a state of order and civilization.

The excellent Mr. Eliot was, however, the first mover in this benevolent work; and to him the highest praise is justly due. After converting the Indians in his neighbourhood, he travelled into the colony of Plymouth, and preached to the natives there. Not satisfied with this exertion, he wrote letters to several persons of learning and piety, urging them to accomplish themselves for the undertaking.

But neither his (Treat's) prayers, nor his zeal in reforming and civilizing them, nor the benevolent exertions of his worthy coadjutors, could save them from destruction. A blasting wind appeared to have smitten the Indians, as soon as the English took possession of their country: they withered and died. Several years before the ministry of Mr. Treat was closed, a fatal disease, supposed to have been a fever, swept away a great number of his converts. In the year 1745, as the author has been informed by an aged person, who then visited Eastham, few Indians were left within the township. By the census of 1764, there were found remaining in Eastham four Indians, in Wellfleet eleven, and in Harwich ninety-one. The greatest part of the latter number dwelt at Potanumaquut, where a missionary continued to preach several years after this period. But the Potanumaquut tribe having wasted away, the preacher was dismissed many years since. At present there are three Indians at Potanumaquut, and one in Eastham.

Such is the history of the decline of the Nauset tribes. In other parts of New-England, the Indians have consumed with equal or still greater rapidity. At this time a traveller may pass through the country, and he will as seldom meet with an Indian as with a rattlesnake. Before another century is completed, the red man will probably become as rare as the beaver; which is known to have been common in New-England by the vestiges of its labours. But posterity will speak of him, as we now talk of the mammoth, as an animal

which has long been extinct, but which certainly once existed; for as the bones of the mammoth remain, so the language of the Indian will be preserved in the vocabulary of Williams; and the translations of Eliot.*

Mr. Treat, as may be supposed from the period in which he lived, was a Calvinist; but his Calvinism was of the strictest kind; not that moderate Calvinism, which is so common at the present time; and which, by giving up, or explaining away the peculiar doctrines of the party, like a porcupine disarmed of its quills, is unable to resist the feeblest attack; but consistent Calvinism, with all its hard and sharp points, by which it can courageously defend itself; in fine, such Calvinism, as the adamant-ine author of this system would himself have avowed.

“The character of this celebrated preacher, (Mr. Whitfield) who was viewed in various lights by his contemporaries, is not yet determined. Those who now read his sermons, and who are disgusted with the enthusiasm and egotism, which are displayed in his journals, written in his youth, will be disposed to judge unfavourably of his talents: whilst those, who have witnessed his astonishing oratorical powers,—and there are still alive many persons who have heard him preach,—will chass him with the great men of the age. That he possessed acuteness of mind is proved by his controversial writings, in which it must be allowed, even by those who do not approve his opinions, that he was an ingenious disputant. The qualities of his heart have been as much the subject of dispute as those of his head. That he was vain, rash, and censorious, particularly in his youth, cannot be denied: but at the same time it cannot be denied, that he was devout, ardent, zealous, and active; a loyal subject of the government, under which he lived; charitable to the poor; and candid in acknowledging his faults, a rare virtue, and therefore the more to be prized. His sincerity has been questioned; but such open, unguarded, and fervent men are

not often inuicere. Whether his preaching was productive of good or evil, is not agreed: it probably effected both.”

pp. 169—184.

“The shores of Orleans are more fertile than the land. Sea fowls may be obtained by those who will seek for them, though not in such abundance as at Chatham. Fishes are the same as in other towns of the county. A few tautag are caught in Town cove.

Though no oysters are to be found on the shores, yet quahaugs and clams are in greater profusion than in any other part of the county.

The quahaug (*venus mercenaria*) called by R. Williams the *poquau* and the *hen*, is a round, thick shell fish, or, to speak more properly, worm. It does not bury itself but a little way in the sand; is generally found lying on it, in deep water; and is gathered up with iron rakes made for the purpose. After the tide ebbs away, a few are picked up on the shore below high water mark. The quahaug is not much inferior in relish to the oyster, but is less digestible. It is not eaten raw; but is cooked in various modes, being roasted in the shell, or opened and boiled, fried, or made into soups or pies. About half of an inch of the inside of the shell, is of a purple colour. This the Indians broke off, and converted into beads, named by them *suckauhock*, or black money; which was of twice the value of their *wampom*, or white money, made of the *meteahock*, or periwinkle.”

pp. 191, 192.

“Great attention is now paid to the transplanting of beach grass, on the sides of the hills and other naked spots near the town. The roots are set three or four feet apart in the spring; and the grass, being propagated both by the roots and the seed, forms a close body in three or four years. There are several other plants, which grow on the beaches, beside those mentioned in the description of Chatham. Among these is the rupture-wort (*herniaria glabra*.) This is a small, low plant; which, when broken, exudes a kind of milky substance. A decoction of it is said, but probably without reason, to be good in consumptive cases.”

p. 197.

* Mr. Eliot translated into the Indian language, the Bible, the Practice of Piety, Baxter's Call to the Unconverted, and several other books, all of which were printed. *Woolin's Hist. Coll.* chap. V. § 3. &c. &c.

1622, and abbreviated in Purchas' Pilgrims, 1625.

'Purchas' Pilgrims has become a very scarce work. The fifth volume in particular, called the fourth part in the title page, and beginning with the sixth book and ending with the tenth, is so rare, that the Historical Society has not yet been able to obtain it. This is the more to be regretted, as this volume is the most interesting to the inhabitants of the United States, relating to the discovery and plantation of Virginia and New-England. *Note—p. 203.*

This is a curious choice tract, giving a brief account of the voyage of the 'forefathers,' from Plymouth, (Eng.) which they left 6th Sept. 1620; of their arrival at Cape Cod, 9th Nov.; landing at the rock, Dec. 19th; and of many remarkable events, which happened the first six months of their new settlement. A very short extract will display the kind of entertainment which may be found here: and to all who have a relish for these old viands, we recommend a leisure repast on the whole:

'One thing was very grievous unto us at this place. There was an old woman, whom we judged to be no less than an hundred years old, which came to see us, because she never saw English; yet could not behold us without breaking forth into great passion, weeping and crying excessively. We demanding the reason of it, they told us, she had three sons, who, when Master Hunt was in these parts, went aboard his ship to trade with him, and he carried them captives into Spain (for Tisquantum at that time was carried away also) by which means she was deprived of the comfort of her children in her old age. We told them we were sorry that any Englishman should give them that offence, that Hunt was a bad man, and that all the English that heard of it condemned him for the same; but for us, we would not offer them any such injury, though it would gain us all the skins in the country. So we gave her some small trifles, which somewhat appeased her.'

p. 238.

23. 'Good news from New-England, &c., by E. Winslow.' This paper is very similar in style to the preceding; and has the same claims on the attention of those who love to read in detail the hardships suffered, and exertions made by the 'pilgrims' in 'old colony.' It embraces a period of about 18 months; viz. from Feb. 1622, to Sept. 1623.

24. 'Memoirs of the Rev. Dr. Thacher.' This is a judicious and discriminating biography. It exhibits the man as he was; endowed with good talents, and adorned with many virtues. It develops the appropriate traits of his moral and intellectual character. For the most part, the sketches, which newspapers, magazines, and even funeral sermons, have given of our worthies, have consisted of vague remarks and lavish commendation: Here is one specimen of a life such as ought to be given, pointing out the actual grade of merit possessed, and the failings and foibles from which, as no mere man is exempt, no just sketch can be free. The family history too, related in the notes, is exceedingly valuable; and we have no hesitation in saying, that a 'New-England Dictionary,' compiled with the impartiality, candour, and research, which are here manifested, would be a rich accession to our literature. Such, we might hope, were there liberality and taste enough to secure indemnity to a learned and laborious scholar, who has collected large materials for such a work.

Dr. T. was born at Milton, 21 March, 1752; entered Harvard College, July, 1765; was graduated, 1769; ordained at Malden, 19 Sept. 1770; installed at Brattle-street, 12 Jan. 1785; and died at Savannah, (Geo.) 16 Dec. 1802.

'As a preacher he was admired: His

charming voice, his oratorical powers, his fluency in prayer, the pathos of his expression were applauded by serious, sensible people, and gave him uncommon colat with the multitude. No young man ever preached to such crowded assemblies.

He was a useful labourer in this pleasant spot of the Lord's vineyard, fond of delivering practical truths, but at times explaining the doctrines of our religion with clearness. In prayer he was ready, earnest, and devout. If concise, very expressive; if extended, beyond the common forms of address, not abounding in vain repetitions.

He was a man of singular integrity. A stranger to artifice and deceit, he could not disguise his feelings, but expressed often his disapprobation of them in others. He preferred to have his manners styled rough, and his plainness of speech censured by his acquaintance, rather than be thought capable of duplicity in his words and actions. A polite address, an unassuming air, a winning manner have their attractions; but nothing can make up for the want of honesty: and how do people lose their sincerity, and practise deception for the sake of a distinction among those who lead the fashions of the age!

As a friend, he had the confidence of those who knew him; those who were most intimate will preserve in their memories the tokens of his affection or kindness. If, in the exuberance of unguarded familiarity, he said any thing to hurt their feelings, it gave him pain, for he meant not to be uncourteous.—His talents for conversation were remarkable.

The Doctor did not encourage dry, argumentative discussions in social interviews; yet while others debated, he would frequently throw in a luminous observation, which kept the subject from being darkened, by words of uncertain meaning.

His perceptions were very quick, his mind active,—his activity was manifested in many busy scenes, especially when he was an officer of publick institutions. He served several in an official capacity;—and to all he was a most useful member. pp. 180—184.

This closes the present volume, which may be considered, either in reference to the value of the articles, or the execution of them, as

among the best yet issued by the Historical Society. Is it not greatly to be regretted, that their means are not adequate to continuing regularly their useful publications? Materials are on hand for more than one volume, and might be promptly obtained for several; but the slow and small sale in times past is a great discouragement, and has hitherto proved an insuperable obstacle to prosecuting their laudable and patriotick purposes. So mote it not be.

ART. 47.

(Concluded.)

A Voyage to the eastern part of Terra Firma, or the Spanish Main, in South-America, during the years 1801, 1802, 1803, and 1804, &c. &c. By P. Depons. Vol. III. New-York, Brisbane & Brannan. 8vo. pp. 288.

THE ninth chapter discusses the administration of the revenue and the taxes. Mexico and Peru, says our author, are the only portions of Spanish America, that have afforded a profit to the mother country. The island of Cuba has in former times been a heavy weight on the royal treasury; but so much has it improved within these eighteen years by the emigrations from St. Domingo and by the commerce of this country, that it is certainly a most valuable colony. Of the official distribution in this department we have a very accurate account; but we are more interested in the kinds of taxation, than in the mode of collection. 'In the Spanish government the taxes fall only on profit, or rent.' The most grievous tax, whose operation is also wonderfully impolitick, is the alcavala,

"This tax is collected on every thing which is sold, whether agreeable or not, moveable, and is rigorously exacted at every place of sale and resale. An estate, on change of owner by transfer for a valuable consideration, is charged with five per cent of the purchase money. A bundle of fire-wood pays the same duty, but in kind. Every species of merchandise, territorial productions, animals, poultry, eggs, vegetables, grass, fodder, &c. is subject to this impost the moment it is exposed for sale. Retail dealers compound for it. Every year a valuation is made of the stock, and they calculate five per cent on the presumed sale. Whether the traders business is in the course of the year great or little, the composition is invariably enforced." p. 15.

The next title of the revenue is the *almojarifasgô*. They have no poll-tax, but in its stead a profitable impost on titles.

The titles of marquis, count, viscount, or baron, are granted by the king to every Spaniard who is willing to sacrifice a part of his fortune to give his descendants a rank, which he has more than once blushed not to have received from his ancestors. Exclusive of the great court patronage which it is requisite to employ, and pay well, the king demands a direct fine of 10,000 hard dollars. He contents himself, however, with the annual interest, if the titled personage does not prefer redeeming it by payment of the principal, and it is this interest which is termed the duty of the lances. Its amount increases the annual publick revenue from 3 to 4000 hard dollars." p. 30.

The duties on stamps, almost universal, salt, &c., produce little, and one-fifth of the mines in this territory, nothing. Restitutions make a very unimportant part of the king's revenue.

"The Spanish confessors make a restitution of duties, defrauded from the king, an essential condition of absolution. For this head, there is in the treasury a register, devoted solely to the entry of sums restored. It is true, that, if we compare what is restored with the amount of frauds committed,

we shall perceive, that this mode is not very efficacious; for, of more than 400,000 hard dollars, of which the revenue is defrauded every year, not more than 500 are restored. I ought however, to the praise of Spanish consciences, to acknowledge, that there is not a year in which the Easter confessions do not, among private persons, induce exemplary restitutions. The confessor himself is most frequently the channel through which the stolen goods return to their lawful master. The name of the penitent, and the circumstances of the theft, rest in silence. It is left to him that receives, to divine."

p. 27.

A note on this article contains judicious reflections.

"Were absolutions granted on no other condition than that of making a recompense, the Roman catholic church would be perhaps, in this respect at least, more conducive to moral behaviour than any other system of established worship; but when the absolution is accorded without any compensation for the offence, and mere confession deemed of efficacy to obtain forgiveness and purification from sin, there does not, perhaps, exist a system so destructive of every moral duty as that of the Romish church. Let it appear as much as it will on the mind of the penitent the necessity of absolution, but let it never to it amend for injuries offered and crimes committed; then, perhaps, even on earth half the will of Heaven will be fulfilled. But when pardon is granted on the word of confession alone, I fear we neither create in the sinner the emotions of a contrite heart, nor rectify the feelings we propose to amend."

p. 28.

This subject is of importance wherever the Roman Catholic religion is tolerated. "A king of France one asked a priest, whether, if a Russian had confessed, that he intended to assassinate the king, he would reveal the confession; or how he would behave? "Sire," said the priest, "I would throw myself between your majesty and the dagger of the assassin." But after the commission of such a crime, when its au-

thor is known only to the confessor, might he refuse to give evidence?

The corso, or duty paid on entering and clearing at the seaports, is an important branch of revenue: but more money is needed, and 'the exclusive privilege of pits for cock-fights is rented on account of the king.' The royal monopoly of tobacco is a recent impost, but more productive, than any other. The profit of bulls is not indeed ascertained by our author; and we may conclude, that it is diminishing. The mists of superstition are gradually dispersing, even in Spanish colonies, and we may soon throughout the world behold

reliquæ, bædæ,
insignia, alimæ, pædæ, hædæ, MILTON.
The sport of winds.

But the history of human absurdity is improving, though ever so disagreeable.

'The kings of Spain, at all periods favoured by the popes, obtained from them, in the time of the crusades, extraordinary dispensations for those Spaniards who devoted themselves to the extermination of the infidels. The bulls which contained these dispensations were rated and distributed by a Spanish commissary. Their proceeds were intended to contribute towards the charges of the expedition. The folly of driving people to heaven by force of arms underwent at length, the fate of all other follies, reason has caused it to disappear. The Bulls, however, have continued to arrive from Rome, and continue to be sold in Spain. The blessings they afford are considered too precious, and the revenue the exchequer draws from them, too useful, to be renounced.' p. 31.

Four kinds of bulls are now in use, the virtues of which are fully explained by Mr. Depons. The general bull for the living lasts two years.

'Every person, who has this bull, may be absolved, by any priest whatsoever, Vol. IV. No. 10. 3Y

of all, even concealed crimes. Obstinate and confirmed heresy is the only exception; an offence, however, that cannot be even suspected, because he, who should be tainted with it, would set but little value on absolution.

Blasphemies against the deity are no more able to resist the power of this bull, than a spot of oil upon linen can resist soap.' p. 33.

The grave relation of the author appears severe satire. All ecclesiasticks, besides the bull for the living, should purchase the bull de laitage, 'if they wish not to provoke the wrath of heaven by transgressing the laws of the church respecting milk and eggs.'

Next in the order of mummery comes the bull for the dead.

'The bull for the dead is a species of ticket for admission into paradise. It enables to clear the devouring flame of purgatory, and conducts directly to the abodes of the blessed. But one of these bulls serves for only one soul.' p. 33.

So that, says Depons, 'with piety and money it would be easy to empty purgatory.' But the most benignant of these impious mediatorial impositions between heaven and earth, these forgeries of divine authority, is the great bull of composition.

'The bull of composition is without doubt that whose effects are most sensible, the nearest and most remarkable. It has the inconceivable virtue of transmitting to the withholder of another's goods the absolute property in all he has been able to steal without the connivance of the law. For its validity they require only one condition, which is, that the expectation of the bull did not induce the theft. Modesty has done well to add, that of not knowing the person to whom the stolen goods belong: but, from the cases specified for its application, it appears that this last condition is illusive; for, in a volume, on the virtues of bulls, printed at Toledo, in 1748, by order of the commissary-general of the holy crusade, we find that the bull of composition be-

friends those who hold property they ought to return to the church, or employ in works of piety, or which they have not legally acquired by the prayers of which it was the price. It aids those debtors who cannot discover their creditors, or when the conditions of the loan are oppressive; it assists the heir who retains the whole of an inheritance loaded with legacies, were it in favour of a hospital. If a demand has not been made within a year, the bull of composition decrees to its possessor a moiety of the debt; but he ought to pay the residue. It bestows the entire right on those who do not know the owner of that which they have obtained unjustly. Thus a watch, a diamond, a purse full of gold, stolen in the midst of a crowd, becomes the property of the pick-pocket who has filched it; in fine, it quiets the remorse of conscience of the merchant who has enriched himself by false yards, false measures, and false weights. The bull of composition assures to him the absolute property in whatever he obtains by modes that ought to have conducted him to the gallows.

p. 37.

Of these bulls no person can take more than *fifty* in a year. A universal rule in the sale is, that he, who takes a bull of a price inferior to that which his fortune or rank order him to procure, enjoys none of the advantages.

Chap. 10 is wholly occupied with a description of the cities, which fills 150 pages, and may be valuable to the geographer. The catalogue of merchants at Carraccas, Porto Cavello, Cumana, and Barcelona may be worth perusal by those, who have commercial intercourse with those cities. Among the ridiculous stories of miracles and holy virgins the writer frequently intermixes a side blow at the national religion. The private economy of the inhabitants is no less defective, than that of their government.

* In this state of poverty, no kind of work can be required, but they instantly demand an advance. The smith ne-

ver has either iron or coal. The carpenter never has wood, even for a table. They must have money to buy some. All have always the wants of a family, which he who orders their work must satisfy. Thus you begin by tying yourself to the workman you employ, and making yourself dependent upon him. It is no longer possible to threaten his sloth with applying to another, with whom, besides, the very same inconvenience would take place. The only resource then, is that of pressing and superintending the work, and, in spite of all these attentions, there are always indispositions, journeys, festivals, which exhaust the patience of the most phlegmatick. One is then, very badly, or most assuredly, very slowly served. 91.

The eleventh and last chapter comprises a description of the languishing province of Spanish Guiana, and of the great river Oronoko. On this river the writer expended many months of labour, and his information is copious. There is a natural canal from the Oronoko to the river Amazon, though this fact has been stoutly controverted. The province of Guiana would, in any other hands, be an invaluable colony; but its best parts are possessed by the ferocious Caribs, and the lands in the vicinity of the capital, which is at the enormous distance of ninety leagues from the ocean, are wholly uncultivated.

For the first century and a half after the discovery of America nothing but mines were the object of Spanish cupidity. To avenge themselves of their inhuman masters, the Indians invented the fiction of that city, renowned in romance, El Dorado.

* The first conquerors who undertook to unite the dominions of the Spanish crown, the province of Venezuela, received from the different Indian nations they pillaged, violated and massacred, positive and unanimous information, that by marching for a long time south, a region would be found on the

banks of a great lake, inhabited by Indians, of a peculiar nature, known under the name of Omegas, living under laws deliberately made by themselves, principally in a large city, the buildings of which were covered with silver. That the heads of the government and religion wore, when discharging the duties of their offices, habits of massy gold; that all their instruments, all their utensils, all their furniture, were of gold, or at least of silver.' p. 275.

Numberless expeditions were undertaken in search of this new land of Ophir. The delusion was propagated in England by the marvellous falsehoods of that herolick impostor, Sir Walter Raleigh, and history has not scorned to record the result. The continuance of the fiction is almost without parallel. The fancy of Milton, which amalgamated every thing it touched, has made Adam, under the direction of Michael, from the top of the highest hill of paradise, to behold in the spirit,

Rich México, the seat of Montezume,
And Gusco in Peru, the richer seat
Of Atabalipa, and yet unpossid
Guiana, whose great city Geyyon's sons
Call El Dorado. Book 11. v. 407.

But that it should continue more than a century longer, and again become the object of an expedition in 1780, almost disgraces even Spanish credulity. Will ignorance and wonder be satisfied with the opinion of a late traveller of veracity and intelligence?

Baron Humboldt, on his re-entry in 1800, from the Rio Negro into the Orónoko, wished to penetrate as far as lake Parima; but he was hindered, as I have already said, by the Guaycas, whose height does not exceed four feet two or four inches. It was from them that he learnt that the lake of Parima, or *Dorado*, is of small extent and little depth, and that its banks, as also some islets situated in the lake are of talc. May not the error handed down, of the great riches of this country, be owing to the brilliancy of gold and of silver,

which the rays of the sun give to talc, the effect of which is still more striking, and tends far more to the illusion of the spectator, who casts his eye over a great extent covered with this fallacious stone? It is probably, not to say, infallibly, the source of all the stories that have been related.' p. 288.

Without the profound speculation of the politician, or the persevering inquiry of the man of science, the author has in these volumes collected much information of value on the topics of geography, trade, agriculture, natural curiosities, climate, religion, natural and moral diversities of the inhabitants. He passes no subject without imparting to it some new traits, though these are sometimes of little consequence in the picture. As he affords us more fact than argument, we learn to trust him with confidence. The natural jealousy indeed between the French and Spaniards is occasionally perceived, for though the nations are divided, the people are influenced by ancient prejudices, and separated by discordant modern habits; but the statesman, the moral philosopher, and the merchant will bestow much praise on the veracity of Depons,

ART. 60.

The British Treaty. 8vo. 1807.

A PAMPHLET, with the above title, has lately made its appearance without the name of either author or publisher. For ourselves we are not displeas'd with this circumstance, as the respect which one unavoidably feels for the character and feelings of an author, always produces some degree of restraint upon the person, who undertakes to review any publication. Professing then a total ignorance of the author of this work, we

shall make a few strictures upon the opinions and arguments advanced in it with a frankness, which, from the style and manner of this writer, we are sure he must approve.

The pamphlet contains the leading features, or rather a synopsis of the treaty, lately concluded by our ministers at the court of G. Britain, and which Mr. Jefferson, for certain reasons not yet divulged, has been pleased to send back to the same ministers, to be new modified or rejected. This synopsis is followed by some elaborate remarks of the author, tending to convince the publick, that the treaty compromitted, in many essential points, the interests of the United States; thus approving, as far as these observations deserve weight, the conduct of Mr. Jefferson in rejecting the treaty.

In examining this pamphlet, we disclaim all intention of criticising the style and manner of the work. It bears the stamp of a master, and we confess ourselves extremely diffident in opposing our opinions to those of a man, who evidently possesses so much genius and information. A keen, but chaste and delicate satire; a thorough knowledge of human nature; an intimate acquaintance with the past diplomattick intercourse of the United States, observable in every part of the work, entitle the writer to great respect.

But while it has almost all the beauties, it appears to us to labour under many of the defects, to which works of genius are too frequently subject.

Truth is sometimes sacrificed to wit or satire; a disposition to hypercriticism is not unfrequently indulged, and propositions abstractedly true, are occasionally misapprehended, or urged farther than correct reasoning would warrant.

To the publick however we submit the justice of these censures, when we exhibit, as we shall do very briefly, some of our objections to this writer.

We would make one introductory remark, to which all intelligent men, who sincerely desire to promote the true interests and dignity of our country, will assent. If undue and illiberal prejudices against Great-Britain have been one of the evils, which have resulted from the policy, at the same time that they are the disgrace of the party, who are now in power, it cannot be wise, nor prudent, nor patriotick, to throw any obstacles in the way of the removal of these prejudices. Mr. Jefferson, it is believed, and his political friends, would not feel easy to find an apology for rejecting all accommodation with Great Britain, especially if they could be supported in it by the friends of the former administrations. Now, although this idea ought not to induce us to wish the acceptance of a treaty, by which any of the great and permanent interests of our country should be sacrificed; yet it might influence us so far as to withdraw any captious objections to minor points.

The pleasure of lessening the fame of a negotiator ought not to seduce us from the great interests and welfare of our country, and we hope, that on a review the writer of this pamphlet will be disposed to regret some of his remarks, which betray too strong a disposition to find fault with a political opponent or rival.

The first article of the new treaty, which the author of this pamphlet censures, is the third, by which the free navigation of the Mississippi is granted to Great Britain. The observations on this subject discover great readiness of mind, and a thorough acquaint-

ance with our former diplomattick relations ; but the author has furnished one answer himself, and we think there is another, which is satisfactory. In the first place, he admits that the same provision exists among the articles of Mr. Jay's treaty, which was perpetual, and therefore the British commissioners had a full right to insist upon its remaining. It was no new stipulation, and had it not been included in the new treaty would still have been in force. No war, or other circumstances have occurred to annul that treaty, and therefore its permanent articles, not comprised in the new one, unless expressly repealed by it, would still retain their force.

But, secondly, why *should we not* have granted to Great Britain the right to enter all our ports in the Mississippi, as well as the Atlantick ? She grants to us the free right of entry in all the ports of England, Scotland, and Ireland ; and is not this a full equivalent for our grant to her ? The Mississippi is now a part of our territory as much as the Atlantick ports. On the other hand, she could not grant us the free use of Hudson's bay and the St. Lawrence, without violating her charters, and her colonial system.

But when we talk of compensations, pray what do we give Great Britain in exchange for a stipulated right of trade to her East-India possessions ? Will any man undertake to say, that we give any thing in exchange for this ? Her motive for granting this is undoubtedly the interest of those territories, and the influence of the India Company, who *desire an advantage by our trade*. The same motives, besides the perfect reciprocity of the stipulation, possibly induced our ministers to permit

the insertion of the British trade to the Mississippi. It is a greater boon to that part of our territory than to Great-Britain. On the whole, she could claim it from the treaty of peace, from the treaty of 1794, from the reciprocity of its nature, and from the grant to us of the trade to her India territories. We could not refuse it to her, while we left it open to all the rest of the world ; and, surely, we are not disposed to shut the Mississippi to all nations, who shall refuse to give us a compensation by *admission to their colonies*.

If it be said, that we before enjoyed the trade to the island of Great-Britain and the East Indies, it may be replied, that so did Great-Britain the trade to the Mississippi. Could we lawfully have excluded her against Mr. Jay's treaty, notwithstanding our new purchase from Spain ? If not, we have conceded nothing, nor could any honest negociators have refused to admit this article into a new treaty. The negociator, who should talk of strict compensation, when treating with Great Britain, would not be entitled to the reputation of an adroit statesman. If such a principle were adopted as the basis, we should be excluded totally from her East-India possessions.

We *do deny* the rule, laid down by this writer in the unqualified manner, in which he has done it, and in the application which he makes of it, ' That our grant extended only to things, which we possessed, and can by no fair construction embrace what we might afterwards acquire.'

We say, that this rule is against *common sense, publick and municipal law*. If a nation, having no legal claim to the fisheries of Newfoundland, should, by *express terms*, cede to another nation the

full liberty to fish there, and should afterwards acquire the entire right to those fisheries of their lawful owner, such acquisition would accrue to the benefit of the first mentioned grantee:

In like manner, if a man were to grant a privilege over land or in a stream, which he did not own at the time of the grant, and he should in any way, or by any means, afterwards become entitled to it, the acquisition entitles to the benefit of his grantee: No man shall be permitted to say, against his own grant, that he had no title to the premises, which he granted.

With respect to the article on the East-India trade, it is true, that it contains one restriction, which cannot be found in Mr. Jay's treaty, and no stipulation more beneficial than those, which were formerly so much decried.

But is it wise in those, who so perfectly understand this question, as does this writer—who know, as he does, and as he admits, that the whole of this article is gratuitous on the part of Great-Britain, to endeavour to recal to mind the inconsistency of the administration, and thus prevent the acknowledgment of their errors, especially when it is known to be so important to the welfare of our country, that they should relinquish them?

Why are our ships at this moment admitted into the English ports in India? And why are we permitted to carry on a lucrative commerce, in which one-tenth part of all our capital is employed?

Is it not because the officers in India have had no formal notice of the expiration of Mr. Jay's treaty? And do they not go on to execute that treaty, as if existing? When therefore our negociators entered upon the discussion of this article, they had only to decide, whether the terms offered by G.

Britain were not better than a total exclusion from this trade; or, if the interest of the East India company rendered it probable that no such exclusion would take place, still might they not think it better to agree to these terms than to leave the trade exposed to the freaks of the officers in India, and to the dangers described so well by this writer in the following words—'What one law had granted, another might resume. That to secure great objects, by surrendering small ones, was better than to leave both at the discretion of those who might take them away.' That although the interest of Britain led her to permit, that we and others should enjoy more than she had granted us by treaty, yet her interest might change, or new men might adopt new measures, from false or partial views, from pique or caprice.

Although, therefore, it is admitted that the article does not stand so well as before, yet it does not reflect the smallest discredit on the negociators. The *'interest, false or partial views, pique or caprice'* of the British ministry would not permit them to offer better terms. The offer in itself was wholly gratuitous on their part, and even if still more clogged, ought to have been accepted, rather than to leave us subject to capricious interruptions or total privation of this valuable trade.

With respect to the objections to the fifth article of the new treaty, which stipulates that the same duties, drawbacks, and bounties shall be allowed in the trade of the two nations, whether the exportation or importation be in British or American vessels, this writer has taken only a partial view of the subject. It is very easy for an ingenious man to find fault with any treaty or any proposition. It is

more arduous for him to point out a remedy free from objections. *If it be granted*, that at the present moment, for the reasons stated by this writer, this article, though reciprocal in terms, is not reciprocal in effect, it may be asked with confidence what terms you would have expected Great Britain to accede to? If it were true, that the article in Mr. Jay's treaty on this subject was found to operate more beneficially for us than for Great Britain, could it be expected that she should agree to the renewal of it? The parties were on terms precisely equal; neither was obliged to yield any one point to the other. There was an option to leave the point unsettled, or to settle it by a mutual concession.—What would be the state, in which we should be placed, if no stipulation were made? In a state of commercial warfare; duties, and countervailing duties would be perpetually laid, and though Great Britain has not, under *Mr. Jay's treaty*, pursued this system, because the state, in which the trade of both countries has been placed, has left ample room for the employment of all the ships of both nations, yet it is denied, that in ordinary times, and even in times like the present, she could not, if she had been disposed, have fully counteracted, by her domestick regulations, all our peculiar advantages.

Besides, this treaty was to have operation for ten years. Let a peace take place—or even in war, let our trade with the continent of Europe be cut off by blockade or otherwise, and the causes, which now enable the British trader to build and navigate his ships cheaper than we, would cease to operate. Our wages, and every other article would fall, and we might

very probably afford to carry cheaper than Great Britain. It is therefore far from certain, that in war or peace Great Britain would be able to carry our own produce to market as cheaply as we can.

The great error in the calculations and argument of the author lies in his not *showing*, but *assuming* the proposition, that it is not in the *power* of Great Britain, by countervailing duties and bounties to her own ships, to place them on as good a footing as ours. This he asserts, but does not attempt to prove; nor does he shew what article, in lieu of the present, he would have proposed to Great Britain, and which she would have accepted. It is believed by very able and intelligent men, that if the war, which has rendered the commerce of both countries unusually prosperous, had not happened, she would long before this time, by countervailing regulations, have counteracted totally the effects of our discriminating system.

The remarks of this writer on the eleventh article, which secures to us the colonial trade of France, Holland, and Spain, for ten years, if the war should continue so long, are still more unmerited and unfounded. He assumes, what we should have been pleased to have heard so able a writer prove, and what he says Mr. Madison has failed to prove, that the right to exercise this colonial trade, inhibited to us in time of peace by standing laws, which are only suspended in time of war from the inability of the belligerent to carry on any commerce on the ocean, is sacred against another belligerent, who has sufficient power to cut off the trade of his enemy, who is able to starve the colonies of this enemy, and prevent the valuable re-

miffances of the produce of the colonies to the mother country. The argument is not fairly stated by this writer. It does not come within the general principle, 'that no person shall inquire into the means, by which, or the place, from whence, property has *been brought* within the territory of a neutral state, further than as it may serve to cast light on the question whether it belong to a neutral or belligerent;' for if this were conceded, still Great Britain could take it in transitu between the colony and the neutral country, which *she* considers, and which is undoubtedly as illegal as the other. Admit, however, that our right to exercise this trade is unquestionable; but that Great Britain denied it, and that one great object of the treaty was to secure the exercise of this trade. Is it true that our agreement to a modification of this right for ten years is a relinquishment of the principle? Is it not as fair to say, that this agreement of Great Britain is a virtual concession of our right, and that at the expiration of the treaty it would revert to us in an unqualified state? Could we not urge with great force, that while we claimed the absolute and uncontroled right to this commerce, and Great Britain denied it in toto, at a time when she had the power and the disposition to cut it off altogether, that her agreement to the exercise of it with an unimportant qualification, was an admission of the justice of our claims?

That it is an unimportant qualification every merchant well knows, because in consequence of the constant decisions of her courts, we have, during the last five years, brought this colonial produce to our own ports, and reshipped it, paying a small duty to our govern-

ment. The treaty simply provides a further duty of one per cent. in one case and two per cent. in the other, which has little or no tendency to enable the British trader to contend with us in this valuable branch of commerce.

But this writer indulges himself in a vain satire against this provision, as tending to authorize the president to levy a duty on exports without the consent of congress, and contrary to the express terms of the constitution. If we could believe him sincere in this objection, it might be worthy of a reply; but as *he* and *every man* must know the distinction between withholding part of the duty, paid on importation, and a direct duty on exportation, it cannot be necessary to answer this piece of humour. If there was any weight in it, it would follow, that congress could not retain any part of the drawbacks, because the constitution has forbidden them to lay any duty on exports, and the withholding the drawbacks, according to the supposed reasoning, would amount to the levy on exportation.

But this writer, whose general notions on the subject of politicks are *undoubtedly correct*, aware of the delicate and interesting ground on which Great-Britain stands, of the importance to her of checking the trade of her enemy, and of the frauds to which the colonial trade naturally gives facility, proposes an expedient, for which our merchants will not thank him, and indicates a course to Great-Britain, which, we venture to say, would in the end prove more vexatious to our commerce and more subversive of our rights; at the same time that it would create and excite the spirit of hostility and resentment against Great-Britain, which, as an

enlightened statesman, he justly deploras.

That we may not be supposed to misrepresent him, we quote his words, 'That we may be well understood, we acknowledge, that while the European powers maintain their colonial system, and relax from it occasionally under the pressure of necessity, or from the prospect of advantage, there is a presumption that trade, carried on by neutrals between a belligerent and her colonies, is merely a cloak and cover injurious to the other belligerent. He therefore can rightfully exact strong evidence that the property is neutral; and since melancholy experience proves that on such occasions perjury appears at the call of interest, it ought not to be wondered at, that he should so far extend the force of presumption as to receive it in contradiction to testimony.' Thus justifying, in another and more odious form, if not the very principle for which Great Britain contends, yet one, at the least, as offensive to neutrals. For, in ordinary cases of capture on suspicion, the belligerent has a right to require perfect evidence of property in the neutral, and yet this writer admits, that in the case of the colonial trade he has a right to expect something stronger than perfect. A pretty fair concession, that the trade is such as no powerful nation can safely admit.

The objection, which this writer urges to the twelfth article, we are not prepared to discuss, because he has not given us the words of that article, and because we think it trifling and unimportant. As we understand it, however, from the imperfect sketch given to us by this writer, it does not involve us in the difficulty he presumes, for, until other nations shall agree

with us to the same provision, we shall not be obliged to restore property captured by them beyond the limits prescribed by the law of nations; while, on the other hand, it may be beneficial to us, by precluding the British cruisers from captures or searches within five miles of our coast, instead of a marine league, to which their rights were heretofore restricted.

We doubt also, whether the stricture on the third article be a correct one, and whether, if another nation should grant to us any peculiar privileges in compensation for a grant of favours in our ports, Great Britain could claim it gratuitously. If A was to stipulate with B, that he would grant him all the advantages of any bargains, which he might make with any other person, we should exceedingly doubt, whether B could claim any such advantages, for which A had been obliged to make a pecuniary compensation, without paying the same pecuniary compensation.

Having thus noticed our differences of opinion with this author, as to the several articles of the treaty made by Messrs. Munroe and Pinckney, (which, on the whole, it is possible, may be an exceedingly good one) we shall conclude by observing, that we entertain the highest opinion of the talents of this writer, and perfectly coincide with many of the sentiments, which he has displayed.

We agree with him in the general outlines of the characters of the members of the administration. Indeed, we think there is a felicity in these portraits, which few, if any men in our country, would be able to imitate. We agree with him also, that however men may differ as to the question of the Ches-

peake; "the language used by some persons on that occasion was deficient in self-respect; that foul and abusive terms come with propriety only from the mouths of prostitutes and cowards; that language addressed to fear, and not to justice implies, that we have to deal with scoundrels and cowards; that Great Britain cannot be bullied into submission; that those, who believe that a war with Great Britain would be feeble and harmless deceive themselves: it would be severe and bloody."

We take the opportunity to close our remarks on this able production, by observing, that it contains the best refutation of Mr. Madison's pamphlet on the right of Great Britain to take out her own seamen from the merchant ships of neutral nations, which we have seen from any quarter. It establishes in the clearest manner this right, as founded on the law of nations, and the right of self-preservation. And at a moment, when we are threatened with war for the maintenance of Mr. Jefferson's unfounded claims on this subject, we earnestly recommend this part of this pamphlet to the serious attention of our fellow-citizens.

ART. 61.

Papers, consisting of communications made to the Massachusetts Society for promoting agriculture, and extracts. Published by the Trustees of the Society. Boston,

Adams & Rhoades: pp. 26. 3vo. 1807.

SWIFT somewhere remarks, for he remarks upon almost every thing, that, "without encouragement of agriculture and thereby increasing the number of its people, any country, however blest by nature, must continue poor." Believing, as we do, the truth of this observation, we have witnessed with pleasure the exertions of the Agricultural Society to promote an improvement of their art among the farmers of Massachusetts. The "answers," composing the larger half of this *tom* and *last* number of their papers, to "queries" some years since publicly proposed, show, that the labours of the Society have not been fruitless. In our opinion, the perusal of these *queries* and the annexed summary of *replies*, received from various parts of the country, will amply reward the cultivator for his troubles. The "extracts," which fill the remaining pages of the pamphlet, though written on important subjects, and written well, yet, not being written in this country, and containing terms foreign to our ears, and alluding to modes of husbandry foreign to our practice, are not equally interesting to the American farmer. We cordially recommend to this respectable Society perseverance in their toils, and hope, that, by multiplying, in future publications, original papers, they will lay the community under still higher obligations to their zeal in advancing the most innocent, useful, and honourable of arts.

CATALOGUE OF NEW PUBLICATIONS, FOR OCTOBER.

Sunt bonis, sunt quedam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

Admiralty Decisions, in the District Court of the United States for the Pennsylvania district; by the honourable Richard Peters: containing also some decisions in the same court by the late F. Hopkinson, Esq. To which are added, cases determined in other districts of the United States: with an appendix containing the laws of Oleron, the laws of Wisbuy, the laws of the Hanse towns, the marine ordinances of Lewis 14, a treatise on the rights and duties of owners, freighters, and masters of ships, and mariners, and the laws of the United States relative to mariners. Collected and arranged by Richard Peters, jun. Esq. In two vols. Price 10 dolla. in boards, and 11 bound. Philadelphia, W. P. Barrand.

Report of the Proceedings of the late Jubilee at Jamestown, in commemoration of the 13th May, the second centennial anniversary of the settlement of Virginia. Norfolk, office of the Herald.

Elements of Natural Philosophy, arranged under the following heads: matter and motion, the universe, the solar system, the fixed stars, the earth considered as a planet, the atmosphere, meteors, springs, rivers, seas, fossils, plants, animals, the human frame, and the human understanding. Philad. J. P. Parke, price 50 cents.

The 6th Number of the Christian Monitor, by a Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, &c. 12mo. Boston, Musroe & Francis.

A Map of the city of New-York, with the recent and intended improvements, drawn from actual survey, by William Beides, city surveyor. New York, A. Riley.

Peace without dishonour—War without hope. Being a calm and dispassionate enquiry into the question of the Chesapeake, and the necessity and expediency of War. By a Yankee Farmer. Boston, printed by Greenough & Stebbins. 1807.

The British Treaty. 8vo.

A Sermon, preached in Brattle-street Church, Boston, September 25, 1807, before the managers of the Boston Fe-

male Asylum, on their seventh anniversary. By Jedidiah Morse, D. D. minister of the congregational church in Charlestown. 8vo. Boston, Russell & Cutler.

Serious and candid Letters to the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D. on his book entitled, "The Baptism of Believers only, and the particular Communion of the Baptist Churches explained and vindicated." By Samuel Worcester, A. M. Salem, Cushing & Appleton.

An Address pronounced at the visitation of Mason's Hall, Boston, on the evening of August 11, A. D. 1807, in the presence of a numerous assembly of ladies and gentlemen, and a special convention of Mount Lebanon Lodge. By Bro. Benjamin Gleason, P. G. L. Boston, printed by Oliver & Musroe.

The Christian Ministry, the qualification requisite for it, in duties, difficulties, encouragements, &c. considered in two Sermons, delivered before the Church and Society, in the East parish of Bridgewater, Nov. 2, 1806, the second Sabbath after the author's ordination. By James Flint, A. M. pastor of the church in that place. 8vo. Boston, Russell & Cutler.

NEW EDITIONS.

Tour through Holland, along the right and left banks of the Rhine, to the south of Germany, in the summer and autumn of 1806: By Sir John Carr, author of the *Stranger in Ireland*, &c. 8vo. 301 pp. Philadelphia, Frye & Kammerer.

Observations on European Courts, and outlines of their politics, &c. By Macall Medford, Esq. of America, during a residence of fourteen years in Europe, and upon his return to America. Philadelphia, Thomas Dobson.

The 2d vol. of Rollin's *Antient History*—and 3d of Doddridge's *Family Expositor*. 8vo. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

The Beauties of Sterne; including many of his letters and sermons, all his pathetick tales, humorous descriptions, and most distinguished observations on life. Boston, Andrews & Cummings. 18mo. pp. 323.

Letters of the late Lord Eyreton, only son of the venerable George, Lord Eyreton, and chief justice in Eyre, &c. &c. The first American edition, complete in one volume, 8vo. To which is now first added a memoir concerning this author, including an account of some extraordinary circumstances attending his death. Troy, N. Y.: Wright, Goodenow, & Co.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Letters from England, by Don Manuel Alvarez Espriella. Translated from the Spanish. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

Select sermons of the Rev. Samuel Stillman, D. D. late pastor of the 1st Baptist church in Boston. 8vo. Boston, Manning & Loring.

The American Reader, containing a selection of narration, harangues, addresses, dialogues, odes, hymns, poems, &c. designed for the use of schools; together with a short introduction. By John Hubbard, Esq; professor of mathematics and natural philosophy in Dartmouth college. Third edition. Thomas & Thomas, Walpole, N. H. & Wright, Goodenow, & Stockwell, Troy, N. Y.

Charlotte and Welter. 12mo. Boston, Andrews & Cummings.

Cruise's digest of the laws of England respecting real property. New York, I. Riley.

Tidd's practice, in one vol. 8vo. I. Riley.

Hill's Life of Hugh Blair, Philadelphia, James Humphries.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

Messrs. Thomas & Tappan and Samuel Beag, jun. propose to publish by subscription, the philosophy of Natural history. By William Smellie, member of the antiquarian and royal societies of Edinburgh. This work will be printed from the London quarto edition, and compressed in one octavo volume, on a superfine wove paper and

new type. It will be delivered to subscribers, neatly finished in boards, at 2 dollars and 25 cents—by bound handsomely, at 2 dollars and 50 cents.

Messrs. John West, Oliver C. Greenleaf, and Edward Cotton, of this town, propose to publish by subscription, The Works of Dr. Samuel Johnson, with an Essay by Arthur Murphy, Esq. The work will be printed on a fine wove paper, with an entire new type, in 8 octavo volumes, of about 500 pages each. Pr. to subscribers \$2 a vol. in boards.

Mr. James Humphries, of Philadelphia, intends shortly to publish Dallas's translation of the Life and Reign of Louis 16th, by Francis Hue.

The first volume of The Divine Theory; a system of divinity, founded wholly upon Christ; which by one principle offers an explanation of all the works of God. By Joshua Spalding minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The volume will contain about 500 pages 8vo. \$2 bound.

Proposals have been issued by Daniel Johnson, of Portland, Maine, for printing by subscription, the history of England, from the invasion of Julius Caesar to the death of George the second, and from the accession of George the third to the conclusion of the peace of 1763, by Hume, Smollett, and Adolphus, in 16 vols. royal 8vo. price 2 dollars and 50 cents a vol in boards.

E. Sargeant, of New-York, has announced his intention of republishing Cruttwell's Universal Gazetteer, in three large 8vo. volumes with an elegant 4to atlas.

Mr. Lemuel Blake, of this town, has issued proposals to publish an edition of the Plays of William Shakespeare, in 21 volumes, with the corrections and illustrations of various commentators, revised and augmented by Isaac Reed, with a glossarial Index. It will be published in 42 numbers or half-volumes, pp. 250 each, at 67 cents a number. A portrait of the author, with other engravings, will ornament the work.

INTELLIGENCE.

Account of the Society for the establishment of a Literary Fund.

THIS Institution, which may rank with the most useful and important in Great-Britain, had its origin in a Society consisting principally of men of let-

ters, and from the following circumstance:

In 1768, an event took place, which tarnished the character of English humanity, and afflicted the friends of literature.

Floyer Sydenham, the ingenious translator of Plato, a profound scholar, revered for his knowledge, and beloved for his candour and gentleness, died in consequence of having been arrested and detained for a debt to a victualler, who had, for some time, furnished his frugal dinner.

At the news of that event, every friend of literature in the society felt a mixture of sorrow and shame; and one of the members proposed, that a plan should be executed, which had been some years under consideration, to prevent similar afflictions, and to assist deserving authors and their families in distress.

The plan, though applauded, was not unanimously adopted; but the spirit of the proposer not being discouraged, another Society was formed, consisting only of eight persons: at the first meeting of which the annexed constitutions and an advertisement were produced, and approved.

The subscription for the purposes of printing the constitutions, and inserting advertisements in the publick papers, amounted only to eight guineas; but at the next meeting the number of subscribers was increased, and the subscription renewed.

That little faithful band steadily continued its operations; and without waiting for the result of yearly subscriptions, proportioned its contributions to the objects immediately in view; and sustained the expense of printing the constitutions and advertisements nearly two years.

In that manner the Society gradually acquired stability; and the first general meeting was appointed on the 18th of May, 1790; when officers were elected, a committee was formed, and the annual subscriptions were so increased, as to admit of the application of small sums monthly to the purposes of the Institution.

CONSTITUTIONS.

It is the purpose of this institution to establish a fund, on which deserving authors may rely for assistance, in proportion to its produce.

1. An annual subscription, of not less than a guinea, entitles the subscribers to a voice in the deliberations of the society.

2. Donations of ten guineas, and upwards, within one year, constitute subscribers for life; and legacies in trust will be gratefully received.

3. The constitutions and regulations are executed by a president, vice-presidents, three registrars, three treasurers; a council of not more than fifty; a committee of council; and a general committee of twenty-one members, seven of which go out annually, according to priority of service, and are then eligible into the council; the members of which, after three years, may be re-elected into the general committee, and again returned to the council, if required by the society.

4. Presidents, vice-presidents, registrars, and treasurers, are by their offices members of all committees, and when they decline their re-election, are eligible into the council.

5. Subscribers residing at considerable distances from London, who interest themselves for the society, and, while in town, attend the committee, may, at the end of three years, be elected into the council.

6. All these regulations imply, that the parties continue their subscriptions, or are subscribers for life.

7. The ordinary business of the society is transacted by the general committee on the third Thursday in the month, consisting of its officers and members. Five constitute a quorum. All extraordinary occurrences and measures are to be referred by the general committee to the committee of council, or to a general meeting of the subscribers.

8. All assemblies and committees are directed by the president, a vice-president, by a member of the council, or in their absence, by a chairman appointed for the time. The council must be directed by the president, vice-president, or a chairman from its own body.

9. At all assemblies of the subscribers, councils, or committees, the decisions are by a majority;

and the president, or chairman, gives only a casting vote on an equal division.

10. The meetings of the General Committee are open to the members of the Council; who may, on all occasions, assist by advice, but not vote on debates, unless necessary to make up the quorum. If any irregularities or abuses appear, or be supposed, to arise, two members of the Council, by directions to a Registrar, or by letters from themselves, may assemble the whole Council, to consider the measures in question, to obviate or approve their effects, and to suspend the operations of the Committee, of the Registrars, Treasurers, and other officers, until the sense or opinion of the subscribers be taken at a general meeting, which must be within a month of the time of suspension. All general meetings to be summoned by advertisements.

11. Temporary vacancies in the committee, or in the offices, may be filled up at the discretion of the council.

12. All the subscribers must be summoned annually, by advertisement, on the third Thursday in March, to choose officers, and to supply the vacancies, by rotation or any other circumstance, in the committees and council; or such as may happen in the offices of president, vice-president, registrar, and treasurer.—These officers are recognized or appointed annually; but the offices may be continued in the same persons as long as the society may think expedient or necessary.

13. The pecuniary appointments for collectors and messengers (all other offices being discharged gratuitously) must be assigned and approved at their respective elections. These officers may be suspended or discharged by the general committee, or a complaint properly supported by a member of the committee, or of the council, or a subscriber. Security may be taken, by the committee, for the execution of their trusts.

14. All applications or claims of

relief must be to a registrar; who may immediately summon a committee, if the cases be urgent; if not, he shall present them at the first meeting.

15. All the stock, property, and revenues, of the society, must be invested in the public funds, in public and competent securities, or deposited at a banker's. No money must be drawn for, but by an order of the committee: no securities charged; nor any part of a capital, whether in estates or funds, be disposed of, but by consent of a general meeting of the subscribers.

16. The assistance afforded to authors in distress, or to their widows and children, shall be at the discretion of the general committee; and may be transmitted by a treasurer, a member of the committee or council, or by a subscriber, according to its order; for the receipt of which he is to produce an acknowledgment.

17. Books of accounts by a treasurer, and books of transactions and occurrences by a registrar, are always liable to inspection by the committee and council, or by any of their members. They are open to any subscriber, applying to the proper officer.

17. As in the business of the society, cases may occur, requiring more enquiry, and more secrecy, than are consistent with the proceedings of the general committee; and some deliberation may often be necessary, previous to the proposal of measures, or the nomination of officers, &c. to the general committee, or to the society at large:—

The president, two of the vice-presidents, five members of the council, or of the committee, one of the registrars, and one of the treasurers, shall be annually nominated, and constitute a committee of council; the whole to be summoned on business, but three to form a quorum.

19. To this committee of council all applications made to the general committee, and all other matters, requiring investigation, shall, at the request of two members, either

of the council, general committee, or of the society, be referred.

20. It shall particularly enquire into the situations of authors, reported to be in distress, whom modesty, or pardonable pride, may have prevented from preferring their applications or claims, and give in its information to the general committee, in a manner that shall not expose such authors to any mortification.

21. The said committee of council, if the president should be prevented from attending it, may communicate with him, by one or more of its members, and take his opinion on matters to be proposed at any committees, or to the society at large.

22. It shall also, previously to all elections by general meetings, form a list or lists of persons, in its opinion, fit to be elected, and submit the result of its deliberations to the electors; not, however, precluding the nomination of another person, or persons, by any member of the society.

23. The said committee of council, acting only in cases provided for by the constitutions, shall have no power of granting relief to authors by its own authority; but all its members, like those of the vice-presidency and council, may supply deficiencies in the general committee, when unable to form a quorum. It shall not interfere with the power of the society, in establishing general and permanent rules, or do any act already provided for by the constitutions.

24. The said committee of council shall be open to all the vice-presidents, to all members of the council, and all the officers of the society, when specially summoned, at the desire of two members of the committee.

25. These constitutions, or any article of them, may be revised, corrected, or altered, at the annual meeting of the subscribers, or at a general meeting regularly summoned; provided a requisition be previously made, to that effect, by the majority of the council or of the

committee; that the subjects to be submitted to the subscribers be prepared by the committee of council; and that notice be given in the circular letter or advertisement to the subscribers, of the intended revision.

The general committee generally dine together on the monthly periods of business, but at their own expence; and all the festivals of the society are at the private expence of the members.

Remarks on cases, in which relief has been administered from the Literary Fund, to July 1801.

THE Society for the Literary Fund, during nearly 12 years, which have elapsed since its first institution, has administered relief in 196 cases of distress; the number of persons who has experienced its bounty is 105; and the sum distributed amounts, in the whole, to 1680l. 8s. sterling.

It has been usual to print short accounts of these cases, and insert them in a book, distributed to the subscribers and other respectable persons, who might become patrons of this institution.—This mode, however, experience has shewn to be liable to strong objections. If any author relieved had been expressly named, or the circumstances of the case set forth at large (which, in many instances, would in effect be the same), the feelings of unfortunate persons would be wounded, and, in some cases, their consideration in life lessened, and their future prospects destroyed. It was, therefore, thought fit to publish the cases anonymously, and without such distinct references as would guide a stranger to the knowledge of the persons relieved. This, however, appeared to most readers uninteresting and unintrusive.

On the present occasion, therefore, it has been thought fit to examine the books anew; to describe, as instances, a few cases in which, owing to the death of the parties, or their known circumstances, delicacy to them is out of the question, and to offer some general remarks on the rest.

The very first case of a meritorious scholar and author, in distressed circumstances, which attracted the notice of the committee, was that of the learned, but unfortunate, Dr. Harwood; a

man whose perfect knowledge of the learned languages, and laborious diligence, both as an oral instructor and writer, scarcely procured him a scanty and precarious support.

In the infancy of this Institution, and when its funds amounted to little more than was required for the expenses of printing and advertisements, this deserving object repeatedly received assistance, which if it did not place him in affluence, rescued him from misery and despair. Other authors, moral and political, of great merit, and a few of great and deserved celebrity, received assistance from the committee, to the utmost of its powers; but these, being still alive, and it being an inviolable rule of the committee, not to publish the names of living objects of their attention, those *Members of the Society*, who wish to be minutely informed, have recourse to the records of the committee, which they have a right to inspect, and which are always open to the examination of any subscriber.

In this early period of the Institution, Mrs. Charlotte Lennox, a lady well known for several works equally amusing and instructive, being in narrow circumstances, was enabled, by the assistance of the Society, to place her son in a situation that promised a provision for life. Thus were some distinguished persons assisted from the Literary Fund, while its sources were scanty, and its powers necessarily limited. But several deserving, though less eminent, writers, received great alleviation in their distresses; one in particular (a very industrious and useful author) was, for several years, during which he sustained the most excruciating and incurable malady, preserved from the aggravated misery of want, and when relieved at last by death from his cruel sufferings, received a decent interment, chiefly by the benevolence of the Society.

Of late, as the funds of the Society have increased, and the claimants become more numerous, in proportion as it was more known, its benefactions have been more numerous and liberal. Amongst the cases relieved, during this latter period, are several writers of distinguished eminence, whom it would be a gross indelicacy to name, or particularly allude to; especially since some of them are now in circumstances, that not only prevent their being objects, but may enable them to

become supporters of the Institution. The number of less brilliant, but useful, writers, relieved within this period, is also very considerable, and the cases of a questionable nature, or where the vigilance of the Committee may have been deceived, few. They will be fewer in future; as all cases that appear doubtful, may, by a late regulation, at the desire of any two Members, be referred to a Committee of the President, Vice-Presidents, and Council, appointed for that among other purposes.

It may, however, be satisfactory, and not uninteresting to the publick, to know, that, among the cases during this latter period, was a son of the late ingenious and spirited translator of the *Lusiad*; towards the expense of whose education the Society more than once, contributed by donations for that purpose, to the gentleman under whose care the youth was placed. Another interesting case, which may be mentioned, was that of the widow and children of that distinguished poet, and original genius, Robert Burns. Towards the subscription for their relief and future establishment, the committee contributed a large sum, considering the amount of the funds then at their disposal, and have since made an addition; so that the whole amounts to 45 pounds.

The above are the only cases, which it is conceived can, consistently with any regard to delicacy, or even humanity, be particularly set forth. Many of the others would, if it were proper to make them publick; prove that the Society, in distributing relief, have not only had regard to the talents and wants of the objects, in behalf of whom it was solicited, but also to the nature and utility of their works. Writers, who have contributed to the instruction of the rising generation, to the advancement of morals, or the support of religion, have, uniformly, obtained its countenance and assistance; while the authors of slanderous, of immoral, or of impious works, have, in general, been speedily detected, and ignominiously repelled.

WILLIAM BOSCAWEN,
Member of the Council.

ERRATA.—In a part of the impression of page 525, line 5 from bottom, for of poverty read and poverty p. 546, third line from top, for has read have.

MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,

FOR

NOVEMBER, 1807.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 27.

Existimat enim, qui mare tenent, eum necesse ferum potiri.

Æt. Attico. lib. 10. cap. 8.

It is from speculations upon literature, and inquiries into human conduct and motives, the Remarker may be allowed to divert the attention of his readers to one of the principal causes of the physical enjoyment and moral improvement of us all, the advantages of commercial intercourse have a strong claim to be considered.

Trade is derived from the nature of man, and its continuance is inevitably secured by his weakness and his wants. The authors of the most simple arts were deified by the barbarians, whom they tamed; nor has their divinity subsisted only in the frail memorials of their contemporaries. To have increased the comforts of life and enlarged the boundaries of beneficence by such discoveries, has, in the opinion of Virgil, been sufficient to open Elysium. Equal with holy bards, and pious priests, and patriots who died for their country, he introduces

‘*Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes.*’

The title of philosophers has been arrogated by some, who extol above ~~our~~ times the happiness of that golden age, when man's purity was equalled only by his ignorance, when his vices were

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4 A

not more numerous than his desires. They tell us, that, unmindful of the delights of society, regardless of heat, of cold, and of hunger, which, in our degeneracy, we shrink from as the greatest evils, eager only in the chace of his four-footed brethren of the forest; ‘when wild in woods the noble savage ran,’ he best asserted the dignity of his origin. But the happiness of such a state, improperly called the state of nature, is either visionary, or happiness is unworthy our pursuit. The humblest artisan in society is superiour to the independent lord of the desert. All the variety in the condition of uncivilized man consists in the alternation of the horrors of starvation and the pains of gluttony, in the silent stupor of indolence, or the loud orgies of intoxication, in a mind, destitute of all thoughts of religion, or filled, according to its narrow capacity, with notions of the most gloomy and murderous superstition. The savage is unsusceptible of love, and cowardly in hate; cruel in war, and treacherous in peace.

The absolute wants of nature are indeed few; the earliest and most imperious demands of our senses are quickly appeased; but to be dissatisfied with such gratifi-

cations is what chiefly distinguishes man from other animals. What was luxury in savage life becomes convenience in the first stages of improvement, and seems absolutely necessary in more cultivated society. Barbarism is content with the lowest enjoyments; but after industry is excited, uneasiness awakens more refined desires, and the mind is occupied with designating improvements in the delights of sense. The useful arts are then soon transported into all countries, and are perpetuated in all. Before the knowledge of commerce a season of drought or of mildew was invariably followed by a season of famine, while regions at a distance of less than two days sail might be blessed with unusual fertility; but an Egyptian barrenness of seven years continuance may now be mitigated, under the ordinary government of Providence, by the art, which supplies the wants of one nation by the superfluities of another.

The gradations in the advancement of society are almost innumerable, and the progress is slow, and sometimes imperceptible. When a people, proud of their present attainments, resolve to rest satisfied, and permit their competitors to outstrip them in refinement, contempt, no less than wonder, will arise at such conceited impolicy and contented ignorance. China, though instructed in many of the most noble arts, we cannot consider more than half civilized, because her notions of religion and maxims of government, her contempt of commerce and ignorance of philosophy, have encouraged the folly of thinking herself superior to all other nations. That most stupendous monument of human labour, the wall of fifteen hundred miles, proves the Chinese

only to be patient of toil, and cowardly in spirit. It prohibits all intercourse with their neighbours, but is a feeble barrier against the barbarians.

As in the prime of manhood we look back with wonder on the carelessness and ignorance of youth, with the same emotions may we reflect, that though six thousand years have rolled over us since the creation, only three hundred have added half of our globe to the intercourse of the rest. With pity, almost approaching to contempt, we regard such caution and timidity in former ages. To the invention of printing has often been ascribed the transformation of society; but to another art we think may be attributed most of the change in the moral habitudes of man, produced by touching the chief springs in the machine. The experience and reflection of all preceding ages had never supplied such improvement to political science, as it gained in the fifteenth century from the enterprises of commerce.

‘The genius then
Of Navigation, that in hopeless sloth
Had slumber’d on the vast Atlantick
deep
For idle ages, starting, heard at last
The Lusitanian Prince, who, heav’n
inspir’d,
To love of USEFUL glory rous’d man-
kind,
And in unbounded commerce mix’d
the world.’

Some have seriously regretted that America has interfered in foreign trade, but we believe that nature intended the inhabitants of our sea coast for the merchants of the world; and that every navigable river, every bay, and every indentation on our shore, confirms her intention. In a country fertile as ours, only one third of the pop-

ulation need be employed in agriculture to raise sufficient for the sustenance of the whole. If foreign commerce were interdicted, we should have an immense surplus of useless commodities, and most of the incitements of industry would be lost. The whole time of half our citizens might then be wasted in the indolence of independence, or all of them might waste half of it. But if all are constrained to daily labour with their hands, there can be no cultivation of mind: and without intelligence there will be few delights of society and little interchange of benevolence. Man in such a state ceases to be sociable, and becomes only gregarious. So that from gradual degeneration to barbarism we shall best be preserved by commerce.

To declaim in general terms against luxury, and against trade, as the parent of luxury, has been a favourite employment of poets. With equal ardour they have praised the days of happy ignorance and simple manners. Fancy has lavished on the description of an age, known only to fancy, her gaudy hyperboles and incongruous fictions. Disgusted for a moment with the artificial modes of modern life, one cries 'the state of nature was the reign of God,' and his brother bards unite in the exclamation with careless credulity and incurable infatuation. But who has marked the distinction between an age of ignorance and an age of ferocity? Which of these same poets has willingly foregone his warm raiment and his delicate viands for the shivering nakedness of an Indian with his meagre meal of hips and haws? By their own example they would best persuade us to exchange our subordinations of

society for ferocious independence in a floorless cabin, and to enjoy true luxury by throwing away our downy pillows 'to rest our heads upon a rock till morn.'

In coincidence with these vain lectures against individual luxury, the poetical politicians, who build their system on a surer foundation than experience, alarm us by representations of the instability of national grandeur, supported only by wealth. That by commerce a people are not unfitted for war is however hardly necessary to be proved to any, who can weigh the evidence from history. Switzerland has lost her independence as well as Holland. Cicero informs us it was a maxim of Themistocles, one of the most profound statesmen of antiquity, that the nation, which possessed the sea, must enjoy every thing. The polished Athenians were not less brave, than the barbarous subjects of Sparta. If these were too poor, as they boasted, to tempt an enemy, riches and arts rendered Athens too powerful to be subdued, except by faction.

Of all our poets Goldsmith most abounds in these false conceits, and he seems to have spread the delusion among his contemporaries. The conclusion of his 'Traveller,' written by a greater than Goldsmith, assures us,

'That trade's proud empire hastes to
swift decay,
As ocean sweeps the labour'd mole
away:
While self-dependent power can time
defy,
As rocks resist the billows of the sky.'

Who is so insensible to the charms of fiction, as in this passage to lament the absence of truth? But the author of the same lines has in *Rasselas* atoned for his momentary heresy. 'By what means,'

said the prince, 'are the Europeans thus powerful : or why, since they can so easily visit Asia and Africa for trade or conquest, cannot the Asiaticks and Africans invade their coasts, plant colonies in their ports, and give laws to their natural princes ? The same

wind that carries them back would bring us thither.' 'They are more powerful, sir, than we,' answered Imlac, 'because they are wiser. Knowledge will always predominate over ignorance, as man governs the other animals.'

TWO ORIGINAL LETTERS OF MRS. MONTAGU, CONTAINING ACCOUNTS OF TWO SUCCESSIVE TOURS IN SCOTLAND, IN 1766 AND 1770.

LETTER I.

Mrs. Montagu to Mr. William Robinson.

Denton, Northum. Dec. 4, 1766.

**** You will see, by the date of my letter, I am still in the northern regions ; but I hope in a fortnight to return to London. We have had a mild season, and this house is remarkably warm ; so that I have not suffered from cold. Business has taken up much of my time ; and, as we had farms to let against next May day, and I was willing to see the new colliery begin to work, before I left the country, I had the prudence to get the better of my taste for society.

I spent a month in Scotland this summer, and made a further progress than Mr. Gray did. An old friend of Mr. Montagu's and mine, Dr. Gregory, came to us here, and brought his daughter the end of July ; and summoned me to keep a promise, I had made him, of letting him be my knight-errant, and escort me round Scotland.

The first of August we set forward. I called on the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland at Alnwick Castle in my way : it is the most noble gothick building imaginable ; its antique form is preserved on the outside ; within, the apartments are also gothick in

their structure and ornaments ; but convenient and noble ; so that modern elegance arranges and conducts antique strength ; and grandeur leaves its sublimity of character, but softens what was rude and unpolished.

My next day's journey carried me to Edinburgh, where I stayed ten days. I passed my time there very agreeably, receiving every polite attention from all the people of distinction in the town. I never saw any thing equal to the hospitality of the Scotch. Every one seemed to make it their business to attend me to all the fine places in the neighbourhood, to invite me to dinner, to supper, &c.

As I had declared an intention to go to Glasgow, the Lord Provost of Glasgow insisted on my coming to his villa near the town, instead of going to a noisy inn. I stayed three days there to see the seats in the environs, and the great cathedral, and the college and academy for painting ; and then I set out for Inverary. I should first tell you, Glasgow is the most beautiful town in Great-Britain. The houses, according to the Scotch fashion, are large and high, and built of freestone ; the streets very broad, and built at right angles. All dirty kinds of business are carried on in separate

districts ; so that nothing appears but a noble and elegant simplicity.

My road from Glasgow for Inverary lay by the side of the famous lake called Lough-Lomond. Never did I see the sublime and beautiful so united. The lake is in some places eight miles broad, in others less ; adorned with many islands, of which some rise in a conical figure, and are covered with fir-trees up to the summit. Other islands are flatter ; and deer are feeding in their green meadows : in the Lontananza rise the

‘ Mountains, on whose barren breast
The labouring clouds do seem to rest.’

The lake is bright as crystal, and the shore consists of alabaster pebbles.

Thus I travelled near twenty miles, till I came to the village of Luas, where I lay at an inn, there being no gentleman’s house near it. The next morning I began to ascend the Highland mountains. I got out of my chaise to climb to the top of one, to take leave of the beautiful lake. The sun had not been long up, his beams danced on the lake ; and we saw this lovely water meandering for twenty-five miles.

Immediately after I returned to my chaise I began to be enclosed in a deep valley between vast mountains, down whose furrowed cheeks torrents rushed impetuously and united in the vale below. Winter’s rains had so washed away the soil from some of the steep mountains, there appeared little but the rocks, which, like the skeleton of a giant, appeared more terrible than the perfect form.

Other mountains were covered with a dark brown moss ; the shaggy goats were browsing on their sides ; here and there appeared a

storm-struck tree or blasted shrub, from whence no lark ever saluted the morn with joyous hymn, or Philomel soothed the dull ear of night : but from thence the eagle gave the first lessons of flight to her young, and taught them to make war on the kids.

In the vale of Glencrow we stopped to dine by the stream of Cona, so celebrated by Ossian. I chose to dine amid the rude magnificence of Nature, rather than in the meanest of the works of Art ; so did not enter the cottage, which called itself an inn. From thence my servants brought me fresh herrings and trout ; and my lord provost’s wife had filled my maid’s chaise with good things ; so very luxuriously we feasted.

I wished Ossian would have come to us, and told us ‘ a tale of other times.’ However imagination and memory assisted ; and we recollected many passages in the very places that inspired them. I stayed three hours, listening to the roaring stream, and hoped some ghost would come on the blast of the mountain, and shew us where three grey stones were erected to his memory.

After dinner we went on about fourteen miles, still in the valley, mountain rising above mountain, till we ascended to Inverary. There at once we entered the vale, where lies the vast lake called Lough-Fine ; of whose dignity I cannot give you a better notion, than by telling you the great Leviathan had taken his pasture therein the night before I was there. Though it is forty miles from the sea, whales come up there often in the herring season. At Inverary, I was lodged at a gentleman’s house ; invited to another’s in the neighbourhood ; and attended round the Duke of Argyll’s Poss-

cy; (such are called the grounds dedicated to beauty and ornament.) I went also to see the castle built by the late Duke. It appears small by the vast objects near it; this great lake before; a vast mountain, covered with fir and beech, behind it; so that relatively the castle is little.

I was obliged to return back to Glasgow the same way, not having time to make the tour of the Highlands. Lord Provost had an excellent dinner, and good company ready for us. The next day I went to Lord Kames's near Stirling, where I had promised to stay a day. I passed a day very agreeably there, but could not comply with their obliging entreaties to stay a longer time; but was obliged to return to Edinburgh. Lord Kames attended me to Stirling Castle; and thence to the Iron Works at Carron: there again I was on classick ground.

I dined at Mr. Dundas's. At night I got back to Edinburgh, where I rested myself three days; and then on my road lay at Sir Gilbert Elliot's; and spent a day with him and Lady Elliot. They facilitated my journey by lending me relays, which the route did not always furnish: so I sent my own horses a stage forward. I crossed the Tweed again; dined and lay at the Bishop of Carlisle's at Rose Castle, and then came home, much pleased with the expedition, and grateful for the infinite civilities I had received.

My evenings at Edinburgh passed very agreeably with Dr. Robertson, Dr. Blair, Lord Kames, and divers ingenious and agreeable persons. My friend Dr. Gregory, who was my fellow-traveler, though he is a mathematician, has a fine imagination, an elegant taste, and every quality to make an

agreeable companion. He came back to Denton with me; but soon left us. I detained his two daughters; who are still with me. They are most amiable children; they will return to their papa a few days before I leave this place.

I was told Mr. Gray was rather reserved, when he was in Scotland; though they were disposed to pay him great respect. I agree perfectly with him, that to endeavour to shine in conversation, and to lay out for admiration is very paltry; the wit of the company, next to the butt of the company is the meanest person in it; but at the same time, when a man of celebrated talents disdains to mix in common conversation, or refuses to talk on ordinary subjects, it betrays a latent pride. There is a much higher character, than that of a wit, or a poet, or a savant; which is that of a rational and sociable being, willing to carry on the commerce of life with all the sweetness, and condescension, decency and virtue will permit. The great duty of conversation is to follow suit as you do at whist: if the eldest hand plays the deuce of diamonds, let not his next neighbour dash down the king of hearts, because his hand is full of honours. I do not love to see a man of wit win all the tricks in conversation; nor yet to see him sullenly pass. I speak not this of Mr. Gray in particular; but it is the common failing of men of genius, to exert a proud superiority, or maintain a prouder indolence. I shall be very glad to see Mr. Gray, whenever he will please to do me the favour. I think he is the first poet of the age; but if he comes to my fire-side, I will teach him not only to speak prose, but to talk nonsense, if occasion be. I would not have a poet always sit on the

proud summit of the forked hill. I have a great respect for Mr. Gray, as well as a high admiration.

I am much grieved at the bad news from Canterbury. The Dean is a great loss to his family.

Your affectionate sister,

E. MONTAGU.

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LETTER II.

The same to the same.

Hill street, Nov. 19, 1770.

Your kind letter met me in Hill street on Thursday : it welcomed me to London in a very agreeable manner. I should however have felt a painful consciousness, how little I deserved such a favour, if my long omission of correspondence had not been owing to want of health. I felt ill on my journey to Denton, or rather indeed began the journey indisposed, and only aggravated my complaints by travelling.

Sickness and bad weather deprived me of the pleasure of seeing the beauties of Derbyshire. However, I got a sight of the stately palace of lord Scarsdale ; where the arts of ancient Greece, and the delicate pomp of modern ages, unite to make a most magnificent habitation. It is the best worth seeing of any house I suppose, in England ; but I know not how it is, that one receives but moderate pleasure in the works of art. There is a littleness in every work of man. The operations of Nature are vast and noble ; and I found much greater pleasure in the contemplation of lord Breadalbane's mountains, rocks, and lakes, than in all the efforts of human art at lord Scarsdale's.

I continued, after my arrival at Denton, in a very poor state of health, which suited ill with con-

tinual business, and made me unable to write letters in the hours of recess and quiet. Dr. Gregory came from Edinburgh to make me a visit, and persuaded me to go back with him. The scheme promised much pleasure, and I flattered myself might be conducive to health ; as the doctor, of whose medical skill I have the highest opinion, would have time to observe and consider my various complaints. I was glad also to have an opportunity of amusing my friend Mrs. Chapone, whom I carried with me into the north.

We had a pleasant journey to Edinburgh, where we were most agreeably entertained in Dr. Gregory's house ; all the literati, and the polite company at Edinburgh, paying me all kinds of attentions : and, by the doctor's regimen, my health greatly improved, so that I was prevailed upon to indulge my love of prospects by another trip to the Highlands, my good friend and physician still attending me.

The first day's journey was to lord Barjarg's, brother to Mr. Charles Erskine, who was the intimate companion and friendly competitor of my poor brother Tom. Each of them was qualified for the highest honours of his profession, which they would certainly have attained, had it pleased God to have granted longer life.

Lord Barjarg had received great civilities at Horton, when he was pursuing his law studies in England ; so he came to visit me as soon as I got to Edinburgh, and in the most friendly manner pressed my passing some days at his house in Perthshire. I got there by an easy day's journey, after having also walked a long time about the castle of Stirling, which commands a very beautiful prospect.

Lord Barjarg's place is very

fine, and in a very singular style. His house looks to the south over a very rich valley, rendered more fertile, as well as more beautiful by the meandrings of the river Forth. Behind his house rise great hills covered with wood; and over them stupendous rocks. The goats look down with an air of philosophick pride, and gravity, on folks in the valley. One, in particular, seemed to me capable of addressing the famous beast of Gervaudun, if he had been there, with as much disdain, as Diogenes did the great conqueror of the east.

Here I passed two days, and then his lordship and my doctor attended me to my old friend Lord Kinneul's. You may imagine my visit there gave me a great deal of pleasure, besides what arose from seeing a fine place. I was delighted to find an old friend enjoying that heart-felt happiness, which attends a life of virtue. Lord Kinneul is continually employed in encouraging agriculture and manufactures; protecting the weak from injury, assisting the distressed, and animating the young people to whatever, in their various situations, is most fit and proper. He appears more happy in this station, than when he was whirled about in the vortex of the Duke of Newcastle.

The situation of a Scottish nobleman of fortune is enough to fill the ambition of a reasonable man; for they have power to do a great deal of good:

From Dupplin we went to Lord Breadalbane's at Taymouth. Here unite the sublime and beautiful: The house is situated in a valley, where the verdure is the finest imaginable; and noble beeches adorn it, and beautiful cascades fall down the midst of it. Through this valley you are led to a vast

lake: on one side the lake there is a fine country; on the other mountains lift their heads, and hide them in the clouds. In some places ranges of rocks look like vast fortified citadels. I passed two days in this fine place, where I was entertained with the greatest politeness, and kindest attentions; Lord Breadalbane seeming to take the greatest pleasure in making every thing easy, agreeable, and convenient.

My next excursion was to Lord Kames's; and then I returned to Edinburgh. With Lord Kames and his lady I have had a correspondence, ever since I was first in Scotland; so I was there received with most cordial friendship. I must do the justice to the Scottish nation to say, they are the most politely hospitable of any people in the world. I had innumerable invitations, of which I could not avail myself, having made as long a holiday from my business in Northumberland, as I could afford.

I am very glad to find by letters received from my brother Robinson, that he thinks himself better from the waters of Aix.

The newspapers will inform you of the death of Mr. George Grenville. I think he is a great loss to the publick; and though in these days of ribaldry and abuse, he was often much calumniated, I believe time will vindicate his character as a publick man. As a private one, he was quite unblemished. I regret the loss to myself: I was always pleased and informed by his conversation. He had read a vast deal, and had an amazing memory. He had been versed in business from his youth, so that he had a very rich fund of conversation; and he was good-natured and very friendly.

The king's speech has a war-like tone ; but still we flatter ourselves that the French king's aversion to a war may prevent our being again engaged in one. It is reported that Mr. De Grey is to be Lord Keeper. Lord Chatham was to have spoken in the House of Lords to day, if poor Mr. Grenville's death, which happened at seven this morning, had not hindered his appearing in publick. I do not find that any change of ministry is expected.

My father and brother are very well. My sister has got the headache to day. She was so good as to come to me, and will stay till Mr. Montagu arrives in town. He did not leave Denton, till almost a week after I came away; and he was stopped at Durham by the waters being out ; but I had the pleasure of hearing yesterday that he got safe to Darlington, where he was to pass a few days with a famous mathematician. But I expect him in town the end of this week.

My nephew Morris has got great credit at Eton already. My sister has in general her health extremely well. I have got much better than I was in the summer. My doctors order me to forbear writing ; but this letter does not shew my obedience to them. I wish I could enliven it with more news.

The celebrated Coterie will go on in spite of all remonstrances ; and there is to be an assembly thrice a week for the subscribers to the opera into the subscription ; so little impression do rumours of wars, and apprehensions of the plague, make on the fine world.

.....

We cannot resist adding the following extract from another letter, 1778.

***. I am sure you will be desirous to hear a true account of Lord Chatham's accident in the House of Lords ; and of his present condition of health. The newspapers are in but little credit in general ; but their account of that affair has been very exact. His Lordship had been long confined by a fit of the gout ; so was debilitated by illness, and want of exercise. The house was crowded by numbers, who went to hear him on so critical a state of affairs. The thunder of his eloquence was abated, and the lightning of his eye was dimmed to a certain degree, when he rose to speak ; but the glory of his former administration threw a mellow lustre around him, and his experience of publick affairs gave the force of an oracle to what he said, and a reverential silence reigned through the senate. He spoke in answer to the Duke of Richmond : the Duke of Richmond replied. Then his Lordship rose up to speak again. The Genius and spirit of Britain seemed to heave in his bosom : and he sunk down speechless! He continued half an hour in a fit. His eldest and second sons, and Lord Mahon, were in great agony, waiting the doubtful event. At last he happily recovered ; and though he is very weak, still I am assured by his family, that he looks better than he did before this accident.

For the Anthology.

MISCELLANY.

MORE OF JUNIUS.

ROBERT HERON some time since published an edition of Junius, valuable not for his criticisms, but for the marginal notes and references, which give a biographical summary of the lives of those, whose infamy the page of his author records. When Mr. Heron quits the plain ground of fact, and indulges himself in conjecture, he falls into such palpable blunders, that it seems surprising how a man, blessed with such opportunities of correct information, could suffer them to pass unimproved. What shall we think of his declaration, that serjeant Dunning (afterwards lord Ashburton) was the author of Junius? To give to this assertion all the mockery of grimace, Mr. Heron further declares, that the facts, whence he forms his opinion, for want of time he is unable to communicate to the publick. By way of administering an opiate to the reader's incredulity, he informs him that the speeches of the learned serjeant abound in those epigrammatick points and attack retorts, for which the pages of Junius are so remarkable. This casual affinity (if memory is correct) is the only solitary fact, on which he grounds his assertion. Assuming it as a fact, that there is a resemblance, (for which, however, Mr. Heron does not condescend to cite a single instance) at the distance of three thousand miles from the ground of controversy, we venture to pronounce it an idle and ridiculous declaration, which the friends of lord Ashburton would have indignantly resen-

ted in his lifetime; and which, if accredited now, would leave a deep and indelible stain upon his urn. It is requisite to remark, that serjeant Dunning was the pride of Westminster hall, and his learning and integrity gave to his opinions, in matters of law, a solidity little inferior to a judicial determination. Is it to be credited then, that he would, in the character of Junius, betray his profession with such sentiments as these? 'The learning of a pleader is usually upon a level with his integrity. The indiscriminate defence of right and wrong contracts the understanding, while it corrupts the heart. Subtlety is soon mistaken for wisdom, and impunity for virtue. If there be any instances upon record, as some there are undoubtedly, of genius and morality united in a lawyer, they are distinguished by their singularity, and operate as exceptions.' We are aware of the inconclusiveness of this argument, as our opponent may urge, that serjeant Dunning might still have written this paragraph, as this would only prove him infamous if he did!

Lord Mansfield and serjeant Dunning were private friends, although political enemies. No lawyer in Westminster hall received such particular marks of respect and attention from his lordship as Mr. Dunning. Any one, conversant in the decisions of the court of King's Bench, can attest to the truth of these facts. The rigid censorial brow of justice relaxed in the presence of Dunning,

and condescended to wear the levity of mirth. How well does this conduct quadrate with the philippicks of Junius! This writer explicitly informs his lordship that 'language has no term of reproach, the mind no idea of detestation, that has not been happily applied to him and exhausted.' Here then lord Ashburton has another brilliant of infamy to sparkle in his coronet. He in the first place libels a profession, to which himself was an honour, and in the next, the friend, whose attentions and favours he is mean enough to receive. Let us now see, whether the real character of lord Ashburton merited such reproach. To those unacquainted with his signal virtues, it is only necessary to add, that Edmund Burke and Sir William Jones deemed him an object worthy the panegyrick of their pens. 'Through laborious gradations of service' he won his way to a peerage, not by the pimping politicks of a court, nor the meaner flattery of the mob. Men of honour and tried probity united against a corrupt administration, where we find the names of a Dunning and a Burke. The principal objection to the admissibility of Mr. Dunning's title to the authorship of Junius still remains to be stated.

Those, acquainted with the state of England at the time the letters of Junius first appeared, well know what alarm was excited. Every ministerial engine was set in motion to counteract their effects: Informations were filed against the publishers, and, amongst the rest, one against Mr. Woodfall, in whose paper the letters of Junius first made their appearance. Mr. Dunning was counsel for the crown.*

.....

* Vide Sir James Burrow's reports.

Mr. Dunning then retires to his closet, writes the inflammatory letter with his own hand, secretly conveys it to the press, after its publication assists in the prosecution of the printer, and makes him responsible for the guilt, which he himself had committed. The real criminal is not the unhappy man, who is arraigned at the bar, but the officer of the crown, employing all the aid of his talents and eloquence for the condemnation of a man, comparatively innocent; while every word of reproach on the publication is a brand of infamy on the character of the speaker. Nay more, to give to this compound of treachery and turpitude every possible degree of brightening and burnishing, Mr. Dunning, in the preface to the volume of Junius, published after the trial of Woodfall, denominates this very trial a 'tyrannical prosecution.' It is not enough then that he should perpetrate sedition in the first place, and prosecute a printer for it in the second, but thirdly and lastly, he calls that very prosecution 'tyrannical.'

We purposely wave all discussion on the point, how far the claim of Mr. Dunning to the authorship of Junius may be supported on the assumed analogy between the speeches of the one and the writings of the other. If there is a similitude, the fact is far more probable that the serjeant established a precedent, followed since by many traitors of his own country and ours, and occasionally decorated his discourses with glittering fragments from Junius, than that he was the author of those letters.

We likewise wave all discussion on the point, how far a man, immersed in such professional avocation, habits the most of all irreconcilable to elegant writing,

can command that solitude and abstraction from business, so indispensable for the author of Junius. This argument in ordinary cases, would of itself be conclusive, but minds of a superiour cast have that elastick bound from business to letters, and from letters to business, that we have no common measure of judgment.

The world has been for the greater part of a century amused with the claims of respective candidates, and every one is encompassed with so many perplexities, that it is far better to relinquish all further investigation, than to endeavour any further to satisfy the cravings of idle curiosity. The main question is of little importance in itself; but it leads to a developement of character and talents, and conducts us to a nearer acquaintance with men, the ornaments of the country and the age they inhabited. Our time is full

of incident and perilous event, and while the present is a conflagration before our eyes, every moment approximating, it betrays a criminal apathy to turn from the spectacle, and to grope behind for the past, to find some scintillations yet recent in the ashes. When the world is in repose, we may amuse ourselves with the amenities of literature; but it is not a time for a summer walk and to observe the graces of the planets, when the hollow wind betokens a tempest, and the cloud displays its electric arrows at a distance.— We have, notwithstanding, hastily thrown together these facts to confront Mr. Heron; and our readers, without further comment, are left to judge for themselves whether, if lord Ashburton were the real author of Junius, he was not a fitter candidate for a pillory, than a peerage? R.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

From an American Traveller in Europe to his Friends in this Country.

LETTER ELEVENTH.

Rome, February 2, 1805.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

WE are now detained prisoners in this city by a circumstance, which rarely occurs in our country, but which often interrupts the intercourse of Italy at this season of the year,—the overflowing of their rivers. Either from the filling up of its mouth, or from some other cause, the Tiber must have altered very much in modern times, or else the *masters of the world* must have been not only extremely incommoded, but abso-

lutely made prisoners in their city. No river in Europe more frequently or more dangerously overflows, than the Tiber. When thus swollen it is a perfect torrent, and, standing on one of the ancient Roman bridges, you can understand and admire the description of our English poet,

‘The fretful Tiber chafing with his flood,’

and can realize all the dangers of Cassius and Cæsar, when

‘The torrent roar’d, and they did buffet it.’

Some writers have represented the Tiber as a diminutive, despicable rivulet. Such representations must proceed from a disposition to oppose prevailing and hitherto established opinions. Although all the European rivers appear small to an American, yet I can assure you, the Tiber appeared to me to be among the most respectable of them. It is certainly a noble stream, and when raised by the torrents, which descend from the Appennines, it becomes furious and ungovernable, carrying destruction and devastation in its course.

In consequence of this disposition to overflow its banks, and with a view to perpetrate as well as compare these alarming submersions, about three hundred years since one of the popes erected two pillars on the banks of the Tiber, which may be called Tiberometers. Upon these pillars have been marked the dates and heights of the water during every succeeding flood. By these marks it appears, that these extraordinary rises do not occur oftener than once or twice in a century, though several streets of the city are submerged every year. It is also apparent, that the river has several times risen thirty feet above its ordinary level, and that vessels of three hundred tons might have sailed through the principal streets of the city. At this moment it is unusually high. The water is several feet deep in the Corso, which is the most considerable street in the centre of the city, and the pillars of the Pantheon are half covered with the flood. How the Romans could have submitted to have this Temple of all their Gods so exposed to injury, or why they erected it in so low a part of the city, I cannot conjecture.

For ourselves, we have nothing personally to fear from this extraordinary flood. We have our residence on the side of one of the ancient hills of Rome, and should not be exposed to danger, even if three-fourths of the city should be swept away.

Since our return to this city we have been occupied in revisiting the objects, which, on our first examination, appeared to deserve most attention, or in examining those, which had before escaped our notice.

To study the curiosities of Rome so as to understand them fully, to know the history of each relic of antiquity, to learn to discriminate the different styles and degrees of merit in statuary, painting, and architecture, would require several years; but, for what is here called 'the usual round of the antiquary,' it may be accomplished in about six weeks. Although this is as much as most travellers can afford to devote, yet it must be wholly unsatisfactory to a scholar, and man of enthusiastic taste for letters. What, for example, can one know of the Vatican and St. Peter's in two or three visits? You cannot even examine the outside of the cases, in which the books are contained; you cannot wait to hear the names of the fifteen hundred statues in the Museum Picum-Clementinum; and the study of the lodges and chambers of Raphael would require the whole period, which you can devote to all the antiquities and wonders of this most astonishing city.

Among the palaces of the modern nobility, which I had not visited during my former residence here, were those of Spada and Colonna. The former contains a vast number of fine statues and

paintings, of which even a catalogue would fatigue you, and a description would require a volume, which I am sure you would not read. The only very interesting thing, which I shall notice, is the celebrated statue of Pompey, found near the Capitol, and for that reason supposed to be the same at the foot of which Julius Cæsar was murdered. The statue itself, in point of execution, is above mediocrity; and viewed merely as the most perfect statue extant of a distinguished Roman, the leader and head of the party who opposed the projects of an ambitious demagogue, it would excite considerable interest.——But when you associate with the character of Pompey, the event with which *this statue* is said to have been connected; when you transport yourself to the *ides of March*, and fancy the great Cæsar weltering in his blood at the foot of the statue of the man, whom his ambition had sacrificed; when you fancy yourself in some degree connected with that event by the presence of an inanimate object, which was a witness of the scene, you cannot refrain from a high degree of sensibility and interest.

This statue of Pompey was to my feelings the most touching relic of antiquity, which I have seen. Perhaps you will not feel, from the coldness of my description, the sentiment I would convey; but I can assure you, that the presence of an inanimate object, connected with distant events either horrible or great, produces a strong and sometimes a violent effect on the human imagination. You may recollect the use, which has been very ably and artfully made of this principle in one of our modern plays, 'Speed the Plough;' and I venture to say, that no person ever saw those in-

struments of death brought out, in the representation of that piece, without an involuntary sensation of horror.

Another of the palaces of one of the noble Roman families, which we have recently visited, is that of Colonna. The magnificence, grandeur, beauty, and decorations of this palace,—its paintings, statuary, and architecture, perfectly respond to the noble character of this illustrious family. Why does it happen, that the Modern as well as the Ancient Romans possess a taste, so much superiour to that of any other nation in the world? If it be said, that the Romans did not originally possess this taste, that they were indebted for it to the Greeks, it becomes still more remarkable, that none of the nations of Modern Europe, whose artists have been perpetually studying in the school of Italy, should have caught a larger portion of this spirit.

The palace of Colonna is superiour in every respect to any royal or other edifice in Great-Britain, and if the palace of Versailles exceeds it in magnificence, it falls far short of it in beauty.

Of its various beauties in the different arts I shall not attempt a description, because I am not adequate to it; though I cannot avoid remarking, that I saw here a painting of Venus by Carlo Maratti, which may vie with the celebrated statue in Paris called the Venus di Medici. Though they are of a very different nature, yet they resemble each other in one point, in responding to those imaginary ideas of beauty, which the poets had taught us to expect in a Venus. Their merit can only be judged of by comparing them with the best attempts made by other artists; you will then perceive,

that the authors of these two chefs d'œuvres drew their ideas of the goddess of beauty from their own sublime imaginations, instead of drawing them from some comely milkmaid or celebrated courtesan.

In this palace we were shewn a costly cabinet, covered with lapis lazuli, emeralds, agates, and other precious stones of uncommon brilliancy and prodigious value. The history of this piece of furniture interested me, and perhaps may afford you a moment's amusement. It was the property of the unfortunate Charles I. of England; it was afterwards sold by Cromwell to cardinal Mazarin, and by an intermarriage it has become part of the estate of the family of Colonna. This family, you know, has been distinguished both in letters and arms, and as long as the works of Petrarch shall be read, they will never be forgotten. If the unfortunate house of Stuart must have been deprived of this beautiful cab-

inet, it could not have fallen into more honourable hands, and there is certainly no place in Europe where it could be displayed to more advantage.

I could not however help moralizing upon the instability of human affairs, when I saw this cabinet, and especially upon the feelings of the cardinal duke of York, who must often see this relic of his family's former splendour and greatness; while its last representative is now an exile from his country, and dependent on the bounty of the possessor of the throne of his ancestors. I do not know a trait in the history of modern princes more honourable or more affecting, than this pension granted by the king of Great-Britain to the pretender to his throne, The house of Stuart, and the house of Bourbon pensioners to the house of Hanover!! What would Louis XIV. or James I. have said to a prophecy of such an event?

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 33.

Inter silvas Academi querere verum.

Hor.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH SERMONS.

THE comparative merit of the French and English Sermons is still discussed, nor is it probable that the question will ever be unanimously decided, on which side the superiority lies. The English aim at solid instruction; the French, at *stage-effect*. The fault of the English is want of interest; the fault of the French is want of matter. The English excel in good sense and sound reason; the French in arresting attention, and in interesting the feelings. The English seem to consider man as a being purely intellectual, and ad-

dress themselves exclusively to the understanding; the French consider him as a being, chiefly influenced by his passions, and aim directly at the heart. The English are philosophers; the French, rhetoricians. You will gain more information from the English; you may receive more pleasure from the French.

The French are sometimes uncommonly happy in their exordiums. I shall quote one, from Massillon, their most eloquent orator. In a sermon, preached before Louis 14th, from the following text, 'Blessed are they that mourn,

for they shall be comforted,' he thus begins :

'Sire, if the world spoke here in the place of Jesus Christ, it would doubtless hold to your majesty a very different language.

Happy the prince, it would say, who has never fought but to conquer ; who has seen so many powers armed against him only to give them a more glorious peace, and who has always been superiour both to danger and victory.

Happy the prince, who, during a long and flourishing reign, enjoys at leisure the fruits of his glory, the love of his people, the esteem of his enemies, the admiration of the world, the advantage of his conquests, the magnificence of his works, the wisdom of his laws, the august hope of a numerous posterity ; and who has nothing to desire but to preserve for a long time, what he possesses.

Thus would the world speak. But, sire, Jesus Christ does not speak like the world.

Happy, he tells you, is, not the man, who is the admiration of his age, but he, who directs his thoughts to the life to come, and who lives in contempt of himself, and of all that passes; for his is the kingdom of heaven. 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

Happy, not he, whose reign and actions will be immortalized by history in the memory of men ; but he, whose tears shall have effaced the history of his sins from the memory of God himself ; for he shall be forever consoled. 'Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.'

Happy, not he, who shall have extended by new conquests the limits of his empire ; but he, who shall have restrained his desires and passions within the limits

of the law of God ; for he shall possess a territory more durable than the empire of the universe. 'Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the earth.'

Happy, not he, who, raised by the voice of mankind above all the princes that have preceded him, enjoys at leisure his greatness and glory ; but he, who, finding nothing on the throne itself worthy of his heart, searches for happiness here below only in virtue and justice ; for he shall be satisfied. 'Blessed are they, who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.'

Happy, not he, to whom mankind have given the glorious titles of great and invincible ; but he, to whom the unhappy shall give, before Jesus Christ, the title of father, and of merciful ; for he shall be treated with mercy. 'Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.'

Happy, in short, not he, who, always the arbiter of the fate of his enemies, has given more than once peace to the world ; but he, who has been able to give it to himself, and to banish from his heart the vices and irregular affections, which disturb its tranquillity ; for he shall be called the child of God. 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.'

Such, sire, are those, whom Jesus Christ calls happy ; and the Gospel knows no other happiness on earth, than virtue and innocence.

COMMENTATORS.

'How many school boys,' says Gibbon, 'have been whipped for misinterpreting passages, which Bentley could not restore, nor Burman explain !' And how prodigal, it may be added, have been such,

laborious drudges in classical criticism, of their trouble and time ! I have often wondered of what materials their brains are composed, who spin out long, wire-drawn arguments, attenuated almost beyond discernment, upon ambiguous passages of the ancients, which, if settled, would give us no new light concerning their morals, their learning, or their taste. It is equally wonderful that scholars should spend sleepless nights in deciding upon a reading, which in the end is still conjectural, and ransack authorities without number to justify themselves to the critics. 'I have always suspected,' says Johnson, 'that the reading is right, which requires many words to prove it wrong ; and the emendation wrong, which requires many words to prove it right.' He indeed deserves praise, who, by the introduction of a reading, plausible in itself, and supported by sufficient authorities, sheds meaning on a passage, before ambiguous or unintelligible. But we have fallen upon ungrateful times, if that which we consider the learned lumber of scholiasts and commentators on the ancients, is really, in general, any thing better than a cumbrous mass of quibbling jargon, which deforms every thing beautiful in poetry, and distorts every thing fair in morals. Shakespeare and Milton also have had their annotators. It requires no great sagacity to discern the needless prolixity of the commentaries on the former, and it implies no malignity to estimate at a small value the notes of Bentley on the latter. I would not proscribe commentators, but I would abridge their liberty. They should not be suffered to darken what is luminous, nor to mar that which is beautiful. They should have dis-

crimination enough to distinguish between what is important and what is trifling ; so as neither to overlook the former, nor magnify the latter. They should be able so far to repress their vanity, as to elucidate the meaning of their author, instead of displaying the learning of the critic ; and should avoid those endless references to parallel passages, which often seem such from their own acquired obliquity.

FACILITY OF COMPOSITION.

Quand on est bien pénétré d'une idée, quand un esprit juste et plein de chaleur possède bien sa pensée, elle sort de son cerveau tout ornée des expressions convenable, comme Minerva sortit tout armée du cerveau de Jupiter. The simile of Voltaire is extremely beautiful ; and as the thought, which it illustrates, is supported by the authority of Horace, I am almost afraid to question its accuracy. I am not poet enough to venture to doubt them, if they mean to speak merely of their own art, though even in poetry, if we allow Gray and Cowper to be fair examples, or if we draw an inference from the erasures, corrections, and interlineations, which we see in the specimens of the papers of Pope, preserved by Johnson, we should conclude that the proposition is at least not universal. Nor is its consistency very apparent with the direction of Horace himself with regard to a poem, *nonum prematur in annum*. I have never observed the principle to be true, except when I have seen a man's personal feelings strongly excited. Then indeed the matter, equally with the expression, presents itself without effort, and the thoughts that breathe, as well as the words that burn, flow from the mind in

uninterrupted and spontaneous profusion. Every writer too has sometimes his moments of inspiration, when his thoughts are teeming and bright, and his expressions ready and brilliant; and then perhaps he may produce passages, 'without labour, which no labour can improve.' But these happy phases of the mind are usually transitory and rare, and when most men sit down coolly and doggedly to compose from the understanding alone, even though they have well meditated their subject, it is usually found, that composition, in order to be correct, must be slow and toilsome; and I am 'afraid that there are few of us, who have not occasionally felt the horrors 'of pangs without birth and fruitless industry.'

ALBUMS AND THE ALPS.

You find in some of the rudest passes in the Alps homely inns, which publick beneficence has erected for the convenience of the weary and benighted traveller. In most of these inns albums are kept to record the names of those, whose curiosity has led them into these regions of barrenness, and the album is not unfrequently the only book in the house. In the album of the Grand Chartreuse, Gray, on his way to Geneva, recorded his deathless name, and left that exquisite Latin ode, beginning 'O! tu severi religio loci'; an ode which is indeed 'pure nectar.' It is curious to observe in these books the differences of national character. The Englishman usually writes his name only, without explanation or comment. The Frenchman records something of his feelings, destination, or business; commonly adding a line of poetry, an epigram, or some exclamation of pleasure or disgust.

The German leaves a long dissertation upon the state of the roads, the accommodations, &c. detailing at full length whence he came, and whither he is going, through long pages of crabbed writing.

In one of the highest regions of the Swiss Alps, after a day of excessive labour in reaching the summit of our journey, near those thrones erected ages ago for the majesty of nature, we stopped, fatigued and dispirited, on a spot destined to eternal barrenness, where we found one of these rude but hospitable inns open to receive us. There was not another human habitation within many miles. All the soil, which we could see, had been brought thither, and placed carefully round the cottage to nourish a few cabbages and lettuces. There were some goats, which supplied the cottagers with milk; a few fowls lived in the house; and the greatest luxuries of the place were new-made cheeses, and some wild alpine mutton, the rare provision for the traveller. Yet here nature had thrown off the veil, and appeared in all her sublimity. Summits of bare granite rose all around us. The snow-clad tops of distant Alps seemed to chill the moon-beams, that lighted on them; and we felt all the charms of the picturesque, mingled with the awe inspired by unchangeable grandeur. We seemed to have reached the original elevations of the globe, o'ertopping forever the tumults, the vices, and the miseries of ordinary existence, far out of the hearing of the murmurs of a busy world, which discord ravages and luxury corrupts. We asked for the Album, and a large folio was brought us, almost filled with the scrawls of every nation on earth, that could write. Instantly our fatigue was

forgotten, and the evening passed away pleasantly in the entertainment, which this book afforded us. I copied the following French couplet :

Dans ces sauvages lieux tout orgueil
s'humanise ;
Dieu s'y montre plus grand ; l'homme
s'y pulvérise !
Signed, p. ed. tréner.

I wish I could preserve the elegance, as well as the condensed sentiment of the original.

Still are these rugged realms : e'en
pride is hush'd :
God seems more grand : man crumbles
into dust.

b.

THE SEASONS.

..... I solitary court
Th' inspiring breeze, and meditate the
book
Of nature, ever open ; aiming thence
Warm from the heart to learn the moral
song.

Persons of reflection and sensibility contemplate with interest the scenes of nature. The changes of the year impart a colour and character to their thoughts and feelings. When the seasons walk their round, when the earth buds, the corn ripens, and the leaf falls, not only are the senses impressed, but the mind is instructed ; the heart is touched with sentiment, the fancy amused with visions. To a lover of nature and of wisdom the vicissitude of seasons conveys a proof and exhibition of the wise and benevolent contrivance of the author of all things. When suffering the inconveniences of the ruder parts of the year, we may be tempted to wonder why this rotation is necessary ; why we could not be constantly gratified with vernal bloom and fragrance, or summer beauty and profusion. We imagine that in a world of our

creation, there would always be a blessing in the air, and flowers and fruits on the earth. The chilling blast and driving snow, the desolated field, withered foliage, and naked tree, should make no part of the scenery, which we would produce. A little thought, however, is sufficient to show the folly if not impety of such distrust in the appointments of the great Creator. The succession and contrast of the seasons give scope to that care and foresight, diligence and industry, which are essential to the dignity and enjoyment of human beings, whose happiness is connected with the exertion of their faculties. With our present constitution and state, in which impressions on the senses enter so much into the sum of our pleasures and pains, and the vivacity of our sensations is affected by comparison, the uniformity and continuance of a perpetual spring would greatly impair its pleasing effect upon the feelings. The present distribution of the several parts of the year is evidently connected with the welfare of the whole, and the production of the greatest sum of being and enjoyment. That motion of the earth, and change of place in the sun, which cause one region of the globe to be consigned to cold, decay, and barrenness, impart to another heat and life, fertility and beauty. Whilst in one climate the earth is bound with frost, and the 'chilly smothering snows' are falling, the inhabitants of another behold the earth, first planted with vegetation and apparelled in verdure, and those of a third are rejoicing in the 'appointed weeks of harvest.' Each season comes attended with its benefits, and beauties, and pleasures. All are sensible to the charms of spring.

Then the senses are delighted with the feast, that is furnished in every field and on every hill. The eye is sweetly delayed on every object, to which it turns. It is grateful to perceive how wildly yet chastely nature hath mixed her colours and painted her robe; how bountifully she hath scattered her blossoms and flung her odours. We listen with joy to the melody she hath awakened in the groves, and catch health from the pure and tepid gales that blow from the mountains. When the summer exhibits the whole force of active nature, and shines in full beauty and splendour; when the succeeding season offers its 'purple stores and golden grain,' or displays its blended and softened tints; when the winter puts on its sullen aspect, and brings stillness and repose, affording a respite from the labours, which have occupied the preceding months, inviting us to reflection, and compensating the want of attractions abroad by fire-side delights and home-felt joys; in all this interchange and variety we find reason to acknowledge the wise and benevolent care of the God of seasons. We are passing from the finer to the ruder portion of the year. The sun emits a fainter beam, and the sky is frequently overcast. The gardens and fields have become a waste, and the forests have shed their verdant honours. The hills are no more enlivened with the bleating of flocks, and the woodland no longer resounds with the song of birds. In these changes, we see emblems of our instability, and images of our transitory state.

'So flourisheth and fades majestic man.'

Our life is compared to a falling leaf. When we are disposed to count on protracted years, to defer

any serious thoughts of futurity, and to extend our plans through a long succession of seasons; the spectacle of the 'fading many-coloured woods,' and the naked trees affords a salutary admonition of our frailty. It should teach us to fill the short year of life, or that portion of it which may be allotted us, with useful employments and harmless pleasures; to practice that industry, activity, and order, which the course of the natural world is constantly preaching. Let not the passions blight the intellect in the spring of its advancement; nor indolence nor vice canker the promise of the heart in the blossom. Then shall the summer of life be adorned with moral beauty; the autumn yield a harvest of wisdom and virtue; and the winter of age be cheered by pleasing reflections on the past, and bright hopes of the future.

—
MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTLAND.

History affords few instances of the power of misfortune to soften the dark shades of character so strong as in Mary queen of Scots. We turn with horror and detestation from the wife of Darnley, or of Bothwell, and think that ages of penitence would be insufficient to atone for her crimes. But when the unhappy prisoner of Elizabeth is presented to our commiseration, every tender emotion is excited in her favour, and we now doubt upon the strongest evidence that misconduct, the truth of which we were before willing to receive upon the slightest grounds. The same feeling induces us in private life to relieve the misfortunes of the wretched, and to forget, that their distresses have been the consequence of their own misconduct.

AN INTERESTING ACCOUNT OF A THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION, ESTABLISHED AT YORK, GREAT BRITAIN.

IN the present state of science and literature, it is justly expected that they who are designed for the ministry in our religious societies should be initiated in every branch of sound and polite learning, that they may enter the world qualified not only to discharge with ability their ministerial duties, but in many cases to be the instructors of our youth, and to support by their acquirements and character the respectability of the dissenting name. With such views the plan of study pursued in this institution has been arranged. It comprehends a term of five years; during the first three of which the student proceeds through a full course of mathematicks and natural philosophy, is daily employed in reading some of the best classical authors, and is directed and assisted in an extensive investigation of ancient and modern history. In the course of this period, he is likewise instructed in logick, and the philosophy of the human mind; in ethicks, including jurisprudence and general policy; in the evidences of natural and revealed religion; in universal grammar, oratory and criticism, and other branches of what are usually called, the *Belles Lettres*. And as the foundation of just scripture criticism must be laid in an acquaintance with some, at least, of the oriental languages, the student, in this part of the course, is taught the Hebrew, the Chaldee, and the Syriac. Thus prepared, he enters on his theological studies, to which the last two years of his course are devoted. After some introductory instruction concerning the general principles of sacred criticism, and

the aids to which a theological student should have recourse, he proceeds in regular order through every book of the old and new testament, paying at the same time particular attention to the language of the Septuagint, and the writings of Josephus and Philo. Having thus traced the history of revealed religion, and from the records of revelation *alone* endeavoured to learn the doctrines proposed in them to the acceptance of mankind, he passes to the history of the christian church, having his attention particularly directed to the rise, progress, and character of the principal religious systems which have prevailed in the christian world; to the origin of our separation from the established church, and to the grounds upon which a continued separation is vindicated. He is also now introduced to some general acquaintance with those writings and opinions, which, by nations not owning the christian name, are considered as sacred.—Through the whole of the course he is exercised in Latin and English composition on the subjects connected with the studies he is at the time pursuing, and in the last two years in the composition of sermons and other pulpit exercises, and receives instructions in the pastoral care.

Such is an imperfect outline of the plan, which has hitherto been kept in view, and pursued with as much regularity as circumstances would permit. And although the excellent maxim of Dr. Jebb, that “the personal labours of the student are of greater efficacy than the oral instructions of the tutor,” is constantly acted upon; yet it

must be evident, that so many important and necessary subjects of education must require the aid of another tutor, in order to their being properly conducted; and that no great increase of students can be expected till this aid shall be obtained.

The preceding plan has been arranged principally, but not solely, with a view to the education of divinity-students. The course, however, for the first three years, is adapted also to the education of young men designed for other professions, or for mercantile life. And as the lectures delivered in the third year are upon subjects, concerning which it is very desirable that lay-students should be well-informed, in this age of scepticism and infidelity, it is much to be wished that parents would allow their sons to continue till that part of the course is completed. They might thus be the more surely confirmed in that good character, which is essential to their being admitted into the institution, and which it is the object of all the regulations established there to guard and improve.

There are at present seven divinity students: the number of lay-students is five.

The treasurer of the institution is Ottiwell Wood, Esq. of Manchester, to whom, or to the Rev. C. Wellbeloved, Theological Tutor, York, the Rev. William Wood, Visitor, Leeds, Lewis Lloyd, Esq. Lothbury, or Mr. Kinder, No. 1, Cheapside, letters may be addressed respecting the admission of students; or for the transmission of donations or subscriptions.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the first and second July, was held the annual examination of students at the close of the session: it was numerous and very respectably

attended, and gave the highest satisfaction to all present. It comprehended the business of the whole session without the students being previously informed of the questions to be proposed.

On Wednesday the two Hebrew classes were first examined; the junior class giving a particular account of the structure of the language, according to Masclef's grammar, and translating several passages taken at random from the Pentateuch from Hebrew into English, and others from English into Hebrew; the senior class being examined in Lowth's Prælections, and reading, as before, passages out of the prophetick and other poetical books, one of them concluding this branch of the examination by a discourse on Hebrew poetry. In the classicks the whole of the students, who had this year read the whole of Tacitus and great part of Lucretius, read a passage from the former author, Mucianus's address to Vespasian; after which a Latin poem on the battle of Maida, and a Latin oration on eloquence, were read by two of the students. The Greek classicks, which had this year been read were two plays of Euripides, one of Æschylus, a part of Thucydides and some Odes of Pindar; the students read a scene of the Hecuba, and another of the *intra mœnas*; after which an Essay was read on the character and talents of Cicero, with a critique on his *Oratio pro domo sua*. The examination of the junior mathematical class in Algebra and Euclid concluded the business of the first day. On the second the only student in the fourth year was strictly examined on the sources of biblical criticism, with a particular reference to the Old Testament; on the original languages, in which

we possess its books and the state of the text ; on the several divisions which have been made of them ; on the sentiments, which they severally inculcate on the nature and character of God, and on human duty and expectations ; on the several Greek and Latin translations, on the works of Josephus and Philo, the Apocryphal Writings and the Targums, with their respective use in illustrating the scriptures ; and concluded by an elaborate Discourse on the Mosaick institutions, and their probable intention and use in preserving the knowledge of One Supreme Being, and exhibiting a specimen and proof of the moral government of God. The students in the third year were then examined in logic and metaphysics, and one of them read an Essay on the controversy relating to Materialism, another, a Summary and Estimate of the Natural Evidences of a Future State. Those of the third and second year were examined in universal grammar, oratory, and criticism ; and three of them delivered Essays on

Taste, on Sublimity, and on the tragedy of Othello. The two higher mathematical classes were then examined in fluxions, and in hydrostatics and astronomy ; and the whole was concluded by an Essay on the Study of Natural Philosophy. The examination being ended, the Rev. John Yates of Liverpool, in an eloquent address declared the high satisfaction of the trustees in its result, and offered to the students some very judicious advice on the conduct and proper application of their future studies. The trustees afterwards dined together at Etridge's, when some interesting conversation took place on the best means of raising a permanent fund for making provision for a third tutor. Several very handsome sums were reported as being ready for a beginning to the accomplishment of this truly desirable object, and there is little doubt that with a little exertion of the friends of the institution an adequate fund will soon be established.

For the Anthology.

LITERARY INSTITUTIONS IN LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool, Aug. 12, 1807.

GENTLEMEN,

I recommend you some literary intelligence, as soon as I could find any in this focus of Guinea ships, and cent. per cent. literati ; and I assure you I have found even here more of lettered taste, and sound science, and real, active, habitual, literary enthusiasm, than I have ever seen in Boston.

The city of Liverpool has now reached that point of wealth, at which societies, which have been hitherto merely mercenary and

commercial, begin to turn their attention to learning and the fine arts, that is, when they perceive that something more than great riches is necessary to make a place worthy of being visited, and interesting enough to be admired.— Hence, within ten years, publick institutions of a literary character have increased in Liverpool with incredible rapidity. Their publick reading rooms yield to none in the world, and their botanick garden, though it has been established only six years, is one of the

first in England. The first reading room, in my opinion, is the Athenæum. I send you herewith the regulations, and the list of the library. The collection of books is, I think, the most select, I have ever known. O when will the day come, when the library of our dearly cherished Athenæum shall boast of including the labours of Muratori, the Thesauri of Grævius and Gronovius, the *Scriptores Byzantini*, the *Memoirs of the Academy of Inscriptions*, the editions optimæ of every author of Greece and Rome, the French and English literary journals *ab initio*, and not only possess these books, but have them always accessible to every man of letters, who wishes to consult them! By inspecting the catalogue you will see that there is not a library in America, which contains so general a collection of standard works in every branch of knowledge. Here you may enter at any hour, and you will invariably find some busy in consulting authors, others taking notes, and others reading for amusement. If I were to enumerate the various works, which I here saw for the first time, I should fill this page with a dry catalogue. The modern works are all bound in the most superb style, and I must acknowledge, that I was never before so much tempted to deprecate the day, which should reduce the luxury of learning.

The Lyceum is a more elegant and convenient reading room, but its library is nothing better than a common circulating, or the Boston Social Library. The annual subscription to the Lyceum is only half a guinea, therefore many of its shelves are filled with wooden books. The Athenæum is cherished by the choice spirits of the place, the Roscoes and the Shep-

herds, while the Lyceum is rather the resort of the loungers; the repository for books, which will circulate, rather than for those, which remain stationary to be consulted. Porson would find himself at home among the folios of the former, while a Cornhill apprentice might spend a pleasant hour among the miscellanies of the latter.

I have taken the pains to insert all the additions, which have been made within three years to the class of ancient authors, and of biography, from which you may judge of the general increase of the library, which is not less in any of the other departments of learning. I could not procure a complete list of the periodical publications, which are here taken, and the list of newspapers was too long to transcribe. One table is entirely covered with new pamphlets. The collection of maps too is admirable, and among these are found large plans of London and Liverpool, in which every house is marked, and a most superb plan of Rome, at least twelve feet square.

I have met with several ladies of very superiour accomplishments. The institution of the botanick garden has drawn their attention to botany, and there is hardly a window in Liverpool which is not decorated with some of the choicest products of foreign soils; and hardly an evening in this pleasant season, while the sun sets just before nine, when the walks of the garden are not crowded with fair forms, who decisively show, that the two kingdoms of nature, the vegetable and the animal, cannot be contemplated together, and that the interests of the one will infallibly suffer, if the other is present. The little book, which I send you, contains a charming address, writ-

ten by Roseoe, and delivered by him before the proprietors, at the opening of the garden. It has never been published; I procured this copy by the favour of one of

the subscribers, for whom only it was printed. It is worthy of being published in the Anthology, in order to promote the interests of our botanical institution at Cambridge.

For the Anthology.

BOSTON ATHENÆUM.

On peut même affirmer que, dans tous les temps, dans tous les pays, sous toutes les formes de gouvernement, les hommes puissans qui ont légué à l'histoire un glorieux souvenir ont constamment honoré la littérature, comme la plus brillante et la plus féconde des études humaines, le plus noble des plaisirs, le lien le plus doux des sociétés, l'ornement, la gloire, l'appui des empires et des républiques.—*Dis. M. Chénier.*

It may be affirmed, that in all ages, in all countries, under every form of government those powerful men, who have bequeathed to history the record of their glory, have constantly honoured literature, as the most brilliant and the most fruitful of human studies, the most noble of pleasures, the sweetest bond of society, the ornament, the glory, the support of empires and republics.

WE congratulate the publick on the rapid advancement of this institution, so highly honourable to the liberality of the citizens of Boston and its vicinity. Soon after the publication of the Memoir concerning its history and objects,* one hundred and fifty shares, at \$300 a share, (the number limited by the terms of subscription) were obtained, as also several life-shares at \$100, and many annual subscribers at \$10. The munificence of publick societies and private individuals in various parts of our country in richly endowing the Library is also worthy of the highest eulogium.

Among the many recent instances of publick patronage we have room at present only to record the following :

Critical Review, from its first commencement in January 1786 to December 1803. 100 volumes. Dr. JERRARD.

* See *Anthology for May, 1807.*

Tableaux, Statues, Bas Reliefs, et Cameos de la Galerie de Florence et du Palace Pitti. Paris. 1759. 1 vol. folio.

Retraits de Los Espanoles Illustres con un epitome de sus vidas. Madrid. 1791. 1 vol. folio.

Galerie des Peintres Flamands, Hollandais et Allemands. Paris. 1792. 8 vols. folio.

Les Aventures de Télémaque. Paris. 1773. 2 vols. quarto.

El Ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quixote de la Mancha. Madrid. 1780. 4 vols. quarto.

Description de Monument qui voient Pierre taillé à Rheinsberg. 1791. 1 vol. folio.

Fables Choisies mises en vers, par J. de la Fontaine. Paris. 1766. 6 volumes 8vo.

GEORGE GIBBS, Esq. of Newport.

A splendid copy of Bowyer's edition of *Hume's History of England*, in 10 vols. folio, with plates,

has also been presented, accompanied with the following polite letter, addressed to the Trustees of the Athenæum :

Boston, 26 October, 1807.

GENTLEMEN,

At a meeting of a number of gentlemen, whose names are annexed, adventurers in Bowyer's historick lottery, the following votes were unanimously passed.

Voted, to present one set of Hume's History of England with the plates, to the Boston Athenæum.

Voted, to present one set of prints in commemoration of naval victories, to the same institution.

Voted, that Samuel Eliot and Jonathan Mason, esqrs. be a committee to present the said History and Prints to the Boston Athenæum, in the name of the adventurers in said lottery.

In conformity to the above votes, we have great pleasure in executing the commission with which we were honoured, by handing you the splendid edition of Hume's History with the plates, and four very elegant engravings, in commemoration of four British naval victories.

We add our ardent wishes for the success of your institution, so well calculated to promote a taste for letters, the best mean of cultivating general knowledge, and thus subserving the highest interests of society.

We are, gentlemen, with regard,
your obedient servants,

Saml. Eliot.

Jona. Mason.

Trustees Boston Athenæum.

Names of the gentlemen, who were the adventurers in Bowyer's historick lottery.

Stephen Higginson, Thomas Lee, jr.
James Lloyd, jr. Isaac P. Davis,
Thomas C. Amory, John Prince, jr.
David Humphrys, Daniel Sargent,
Thomas H. Perkins, Samuel Eliot,
Samuel G. Perkins, Henry Sargent,
Thomas L. Winthrop, John T. Sargent,
Jonathan Mason, Joseph Lee, jr.
Timothy Williams, John Davis.

Among the many literary and scientific establishments, which have been thought worthy of the patronage of influence and wealth, that of large repositories of books has justly been considered as most illustrious for its dignity, its importance, and its pleasures. The history of learned libraries is the history of power consecrated to learning. It celebrates the patronage of monarchs, the munificence of a splendid nobility, the support of a lettered clergy, and the liberality of cultivated gentlemen. This generous aid of rank, opulence, and influence, proceeds from the intrinsic excellence of the subject. Whatever is intellectual is a portion of the supreme reason, and proportionally as it is free from corruption, approaches nearer to the fountain. The operations of this principle are recorded in volumes. The earliest of these is almost coeval with the primary institutions of society, and from that period to the present the mass of human knowledge, notwithstanding the diminutions it has suffered, and the obstructions it has encountered, has accumulated from age to age, and has descended from generation to generation, till its present possessors are captivated in admiring the variety of its parts, the beauty of its materials, or are lost in contemplating its extensive magnitude, its diversified splendour, and its irresistible power. In most ages and countries, the great and the wealthy

are considered as having added, by the institution and increase of libraries, to the glory of nations, and some of the most celebrated monarchs, by the foundation of learned societies and the establishment of learned libraries, have increased the glory of their reign, and the reputation of their era. The maintenance at publick expense of a society of learned men, and the riches of the Alexandrian library, have illustrated the age of the Ptolomies ; and Louis XIVth, in rational estimation, has acquired a higher title to renown, by the creation or patronage of learned academies, and by the splendid augmentation of the royal library, than by the extent of his conquests and the brilliancy of his triumphs.

It is a subject of high congratulation to record the establishment

of an institution in the metropolis of New-England, which will be useful to various classes of our citizens ; which will assist and facilitate the researches of the learned, attract and gratify the ingenious curiosity of strangers. Let men of leisure and opulence patronise the arts and sciences among us ; let us all love them, as intellectual men ; let us encourage them, as good citizens. In proportion as we increase in wealth, our obligations increase to guard against the pernicious effects of luxury, by stimulating to a taste for intellectual enjoyment ; the more we ought to perceive and urge the importance of maintaining the laws by manners, manners by opinion, and opinion by works, in which genius and taste unite to embellish the truth.

[By request.]

FROM THE PORT FOLIO.

MR. OLDSCHOOL,

THE Executors of the last will of General Hamilton have deposited in the Publick Library of New-York a copy of 'The Federalist,' which belonged to the General in his life time, in which he has designated, in his own hand-writing, the parts of that celebrated work, written by himself, as well as those contributed by Mr. Jay and Mr. Madison. As it may not be uninteresting to many of your

readers, I shall subjoin a copy of the General's memorandum for publication in The Port-Folio.

M.

Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 54, Mr. Jay.

Nos. 10, 14, 37 to 48 inclusive, Mr. Madison.

Nos. 18, 19, 20, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Madison jointly.

All the rest by Mr. Hamilton.

POETRY.

ORIGINAL.

GENTLEMEN,

It has been remarked, that the poetick department of the Anthology abounds rather in selected than in original productions ; whether this be the result of choice or necessity, the following lines will not be considered inapplicable, since they partake the nature of both characters, and hence, if in other respects worthy to appear, it is presumed they will not be rejected.

FROM THE RUNIC.

** The Power of Musick is thus hyperbolically commemorated in one of the Songs of the Runic Bards.**

I know a Song, by which I soften and enchant the arms of my enemies, and render their weapons of no effect.

I know a Song, which I need only to sing when men have loaded me with bonds, for the moment I sing it, my chains fall in pieces, and I walk forth at liberty.

I know a Song, useful to all mankind, for as soon as hatred inflames the souls of men, the moment I sing it they are appeased.

I know a Song of such virtue, that were I caught in a storm, I can hush the winds, and render the air perfectly calm.

THE SONG OF A RUNIC BARD.

IMITATED IN ENGLISH VERSE.

I.

I KNOW A SONG, the magick of whose power
Can save the Warrior in destruction's hour ;
From the fierce foe his falling vengeance charm,
And wrest the weapon from his nervous arm.

II.

I KNOW A SONG, which, when in bonds I lay,
Broke from the grinding chain its links away.
While the sweet notes their swelling numbers rolled,
Back flew the bolts, the trembling gates unfold ;
Free as the breeze the elastic limbs advance,
Course the far field, or braid the enlivening dance.

III.

I KNOW A SONG, to-mend the heart design'd,
Quenching the fiery passions of mankind ;
When lurking hate and deadly rage combine,
To charm the serpent of revenge is mine ;
By heavenly verse the furious deed restrain,
And bid the soft affections live again.

IV.

I KNOW A SONG, which when the wild winds blow
To bend the monarchs of the forests low,
If to the lay my warbling voice incline,
Waking its various tones with skill divine,

* See Godwin's *Life of Chaucer*.

Hush'd are the gales, the spirit of the storm
 Calms his bleak breath, and smooths his furrow'd form,
 The day looks up, the dripping hills serene
 Through the faint clouds exalt their sparkling green.

CAMBRIA:

SELECTED.

ZEMBO AND NILA. AN AFRICAN TALE.

BY JAMES MONTGOMERY.

WHERE the beauteous Niger roll'd
 Thro' the land of slaves and gold,
 On the brink a tyger lay,
 Slumbering thro' the sultry day ;
 Stately palms their branches spread,
 Cool and verdant o'er his head ;
 Deeply murmuring in his ear,
 Rippling ran the river clear ;
 While the sun, in noon of light,
 Like an eagle in his flight,
 Burn upon the wings of time,
 Tower'd in majesty sublime,
 Earth and ocean, air and sky,
 Basking in his boundless eye.

Soft as desert fountains flow,
 Sweet as ocean breezes blow,
 Came a lonely negro maid,
 Where the sleeping brute was laid.
 O what wild enchanting grace
 Sparkled o'er her dimpled face,
 While the moonlight of her eyes
 Glow'd and glauced with fond surprize,
 Bright thro' shadow beam'd her lips ;
 She was beauty in eclipses,
 Sportive, innocent, and gay,
 All in nature's disarray,
 Unashamed as infancy,
 Dancing on the father's knee ;
 Fearless as the babe at rest,
 Pillow'd on the mother's breast :
 But to crown her conquering charms,
 Fearly bracelets twined her arms,
 Brilliant plumes her temples graced,
 Flowery foliage wreath'd her waist ;
 The startled nymph, with silent awe,
 The lovely dreadful monster saw,
 Mark'd the sleek enamell'd pride
 Of his variegated hide,

Marbled o'er with glossy dyes,
 Like the peacock's spangled eyes ;
 Gently heaved the spotty chest
 Of his broad tremendous breast ;
 Slumber smooth'd his hideous features,
 Closed his eyes, terrific features,
 Hush'd the thunder of his jaws,
 Sheathed the lightning of his claws ;
 Harmless, beautiful and wild,
 Seem'd the savage grim and wild.

Nila's bosom o'er the night
 Swell'd from wonder to delight ;
 On the mossy bank reclining,
 In her hands a garland twining,
 Unaware of danger nigh,
 All her soul was in her eye,
 Till her tongue the silence broke,
 And, transported, thus she spake :
 " Lovely stranger ! void of fear,
 Innocently slumbering here,
 Rest, secure in thy repose,
 From the rage of prowling foes ;
 Never wanderer was betray'd
 In this hospitable shade :
 Calm refreshing dreams attend thee !
 And the mighty gods defend thee !
 From the lion's ravening jaws ;
 From the dread hyana's paws ;
 From the subtle panther's wiles,
 Lurking where the shrubbery smiles ;
 From the snake, whose tainting breath
 Scatters pestilence and death ;
 From the elephant, whose might
 Crushes armies in the fight ;
 From the fangs of tigers ghaut,
 Cruellest of fiends that haunt
 Forest, wilderness, or plain,
 Grimly strewn with victims slain,

When, like whirlwind, flood, and fire,
 Irresistible in ire,
 Tygers—so my parents say—
 Gorge alive their shrieking prey,
 Then in frenzy of hot gore,
 Fiercer, feller than before,
 Still with quenchless thirst they burn,
 Headlong still to slaughter turn.
 Fiends like these the desert awe,
 Fiends that Nila never saw;
 On this silent solitude
 Those destroyers ne'er intrude,
 For my father keeps this grove,
 Sacred to the gods above;
 Nor beyond this shelter'd home,
 Dare his daughter's footsteps roam.
 Here then, charming stranger, rest,
 Nila's friend, companion, guest;
 With the sweetest herbs I'll feed thee,
 To the purest fountains lead thee;
 Here in gambols, wild and gay,
 Let us sport our lives away,
 And this blooming wreath shall be
 Nila's pledge of love to thee,
 While I crown thee thus with flowers
 Prince of these sequester'd bowers."

Sudden as the lightning's stroke
 Glances on the splinter'd oak,
 At her touch the tyger sprang,
 With his voice the mountains rang,
 One wild moment Nila stood,
 Then plunged instinctive in the flood;
 With a roar of thunder hollow,
 As the monster leapt to follow,
 Quick and keen a venom'd dart
 Quiver'd in his cruel heart;
 Round he reel'd in mortal pain,
 Bit the barbed shaft in twain,
 Groan'd and fell, and pour'd his breath
 In a hurricane of death.

Lost as in a wandering dream,
 Nila floated down the stream,
 The conscious river swell'd with pride,
 While buoyant on his circling tide,

Light as the silvery shadows sail
 O'er corn-fields waving to the gale,
 The gentle waters safely bore
 The panting Naiad to the shore.

Zembo from the grove emerging,
 Ran to meet the rescued virgin;
 Zembo, whose victorious bow
 Laid the treacherous tyger low;
 Zembo, swiftest in the race,
 Matchless in the savage chase;
 Tall and shapely as the palm,
 A storm in war, in peace a calm;
 Black as midnight without moon,
 Bold and undisguised as noon:—
 —Zembo long had wooed in vain,
 But while Nila scorn'd his pain,
 Love's insinuating dart
 Slid so slyly through her heart,
 That the nymph, in all her pride,
 Sigh'd—yet scarcely knew she sigh'd.

Now she saw with transports sweet,
 Gallant Zembo at her feet;
 Tho' her trembling lips were seal'd,
 Love her hidden soul reveal'd:
 Zembo read with glad surprise
 All the secrets of her eyes;
 Wild with joy his eager arms
 Sprang to clasp her modest charms;
 Startled, like the timid deer,
 Nila fled with lovely fear;
 He pursued the nimble maid
 To the broad palmetto shade;
 There the flowery wreaths she found,
 Which the tyger's front had crown'd;
 These on Zembo's brow she twined,
 Whispering thus in accents kind:
 "Noble youth! accept, tho' small,
 This reward;—'tis Nila's all;
 If my hero claims a higher,
 Yonder, Zembo—lives my Sire."

Sheffield, Sept. 1807.

THE BOSTON REVIEW,

FOR

NOVEMBER, 1807.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, qua commutanda, qua eximenda, arbitrarer. Nam ego dicere verum assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ARTICLE 62.

Letters concerning the constitution and order of the christian ministry, as deduced from scripture and primitive usage; addressed to the members of the United Presbyterian Churches in the city of New-York. By Samuel Miller, D. D. one of the pastors of said churches. New-York, Hopkins & Seymour. pp. 355. 12mo. 1807.

FOR what purpose the episcopal controversy has lately been revived in this country, we confess ourselves utterly at a loss to determine. Whoever has been the aggressor, let him know that it is a most unnecessary and reprehensible violation of charity and peace. No man can be so absurd as to maintain seriously, at the present day, either the *ius divinum*, or the uninterrupted succession of any hierarchy on earth. It is also very generally agreed, except by a few of the most pertinacious of episcopal and presbyterian ecclesiastics, that neither our Saviour, nor his apostles, have left on record any draught of church government, to be implicitly adopted in subsequent ages, as an unalterable model, a *quod semper, quod ubique, quod ab omnibus*. Especially is it

absurd to insist upon the peculiar claims of any one form of ministerial arrangement in a country like ours, where the indispensable restraints of secular government can hardly be tolerated, and much less the encroachments of any order of clergy, whether they advance under the covering of the tiara, the mitre, or the Scotch bonnet. Let a few uncharitable episcopals deny, if they please, the right of presbyterian ordination, and frighten old women of both sexes about the invalidity of ordinances, which are not administered by a regular priest; and let the presbyterian talk, if he choose, of the divine right of classes, and synods, and presbyteries, and general assemblies, and espy, in every page of the primitive writers, ruling elders, and teaching elders, and feeding elders, and kirk sessions; what is all this to the humble, private, unassuming laick? Every christian is willing, while he can preserve the power of his religion, conscientiously to submit to any ecclesiastical arrangement, which circumstances render expedient. He is satisfied that, wherever church is not connected with state, pastors and people will always mutually adopt the least inconvenient form, though unsupported by the authority of unim-

terrupted succession from any order of men whatever. That the friends of episcopacy should, for a moment, imagine themselves serving the interests of their sect by any exclusive pretensions to a clerical character, is indeed astonishing; for it is well understood, that the highest dignity of the American church proposed, before the revolution, to dispense with the regular succession of bishops, in order to preserve the existence of the church; and the principal prelate in New-England was consecrated only by the extra-regular and non-juring bishops of Scotland. Episcopacy, if it should ever become the prevailing form of church government in the United States, can only be esteemed the most eligible of the various constitutions of the christian ministry. Never can it be considered as essential to the existence or authority of a church; not as a form, without which ecclesiastical ordinances and acts are sacrilegious and nugatory.

The last time this subject employed the pens and passions of the American clergy, was, we believe, in the controversy between the Doctors Chauncy and Chandler. The 'View of Episcopacy,' by the former, is one of our few indigenous theological works, which erudition enriches, and which posterity will not easily suffer to be forgotten. Since that time the subject has been wisely suffered to sleep in the quietness of mutual charity or mutual indifference. In the year 1805, however, there were some appearances of an inclination to revive the controversy in New-York. Two works were published by Mr. Hobart, an episcopal clergyman in that city, one entitled 'A Companion for the festivals and fasts,' the other 'A Com-

panion for the Ajar,' which, though designed, it is said, exclusively for episcopalians, contained some pretensions, which were construed by the presbyterian clergy into a wanton provocation and insult to other denominations. The author of some occasional papers in the Albany Centinel took up, in consequence, the subject of church government, passing the severest strictures on Mr. Hobart's episcopal 'Companions.' This instantly roused an army of clerical antagonists. Dr. Linn, the author of these papers, which he styled 'Miscellanies,' had to contend successively with the prowess of Mr. Hobart, Thomas Yeardley How, Esq. Rev. Frederick Beasley, and, if we do not mistake, of bishop White himself; and after much expense of time, charity, learning, and industry in the writers, and of patience in their readers, the dispute seems to have terminated in ill-will on one side, and fatigue on the other. Mr. Hobart, that he might erect a trophy to the honour of the cause in which he had engaged, collected all the essays on the subject of episcopacy, which originally appeared in the Albany Centinel, and published them last year in an octavo volume, with additional notes and remarks. He considered this publication peculiarly proper, because there had been some time announced a periodical work, called the Christian's Magazine; to be conducted, as he says, 'by the united talents of the respectable body of anti-episcopal clergy in the city of New-York.' To what new controversies this dreaded note of preparation was preliminary we have not inquired.

The work, which we are now called to examine, appears to have originated in the laudable desire of furnishing the Presbyterians of

New-York with a species of *vade mecum* against the pretensions of the Episcopalians. It is written with sufficient moderation, remarkable purity, and much unostentatious learning. We shall content ourselves with enumerating the subjects of the nine letters, which Dr. Miller has here addressed to the 'united Presbyterian churches of the city of New-York.' The *first*, though introductory, gives no account of the previous skirmishes, which we have related, but simply states the claims of three different classes of Episcopalians, and the presumptions against them. The *second* letter gives an abstract of the evidence from scripture of the original parity of the clergy. The four following positions are maintained, viz.

* That Christ gave but one commission for the office of the Gospel ministry, and that this office, of course, is one.

* That the words *Bishop*, and *Elder*, or *Presbyter*, are uniformly used in the New Testament as convertible titles for the same office.

* That the same character and powers which are ascribed, in the sacred writings, to *Bishops*, are also ascribed to *Presbyters*; thus plainly establishing the identity of *order*, as well as of *name*. And finally,

* That the Christian Church was organized by the apostles after the model of the *Jewish Synagogue*, which was unquestionably Presbyterian in its form.*

P. 28.

In the *third* letter the arguments, drawn from scripture in favour of diocesan episcopacy, are stated and

* The word *Presbyterian*, though it is commonly used to designate those Churches, which are governed by *Presbyteries* and *Synods*, as the Churches of *Geneva*, *Holland*, *Scotland*, and those of this denomination in the U. States; yet all those churches in the leading sense of the word *Presbyterian*, in which *Presbyters* ordain, and are regarded as holding the highest ecclesiastical office.

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examined. It is remarkable, that the most able advocates for episcopacy have at different times given up every argument from scripture. The authority of Dodwell in this controversy is nearly oracular; and he honestly confesses, that Bishops, as a superiour order to Presbyters, are not to be found in the New Testament.

The *fourth* letter is employed in examining the testimony of the Fathers of the two first centuries. On this subject, the work of Chauncy, which we mentioned above, might, if it had been the plan of the author to acknowledge all his authorities, have been quoted *in extenso*. It is a complete collection from the genuine writings of these fathers, of all the passages, which can be supposed to relate to the subject of ecclesiastical establishment. It is only to be regretted, that the want of Greek types did not allow Dr. Chauncy to print the originals at the bottom of the page.

The strength of the episcopal cause in this early age rests upon the smaller epistles of Ignatius. Till it can be clearly shewn what portions of these are authentick, the anti-episcopalians may fairly refuse their authority. In truth, they do not deserve the immense learning which has been wasted to prove them genuine, and to prove them interpolated.

In the *fifth* letter is examined the testimony of some of the later Fathers.

* In citing the Fathers, it was necessary to draw a distinct line between those who are to be admitted as credible witnesses, and those whose testimony is to be suspected. I have accordingly drawn this line at the close of the second century. About this time, as will be afterwards shown, among many other corruptions, that of clerical imparity appeared in the church; and

even the Papacy, as we have before seen, had begun to urge its anti-christian claims. From the commencement of the third century, therefore, every witness on the subject of Episcopacy is to be received with caution.' P.168.

There are however, two passages in Jerome, one in his commentary on Titus, and the other in his epistle to Evagrius, which are so unequivocal, that all the ingenuity of the mitre has never yet been able to evade or to invalidate them. Gibbon felt their importance; and he has referred to them in note 109 of his famous fifteenth chapter. They indeed deserve the serious attention of every man, who engages in the episcopal controversy. The fact also mentioned by Euty-chius, whose testimony Gibbon admits, is hardly less important, and deserved something more than bare quotation in a note. In the latter part of this chapter Dr. Miller accumulates evidence to prove, that an order of ruling elders in the primitive church was not discontinued till after the third century. The following passage shows that the writer is not disposed to relinquish the claims of his own church to the honour of being the only existing model of primitive order.

'No church can long proceed in a regular and orderly manner, without appointing some of its more grave and distinguished *lay-members* to assist the minister in performing ecclesiastical duties. *Episcopalians* have their *Vestry*, and *Independents* their *Committee*; both of whom, among other things, discharge many of the duties which properly belong to *ruling Elders*. And yet both *Independents* and *Episcopalians* concur in rejecting this class of officers; and thus virtually fix on themselves the charge of having offices for which no scriptural warrant can be produced. How numerous are the difficulties and absurdities to which men reduce themselves, when they depart from primitive order! And how

strongly does the aspect of every other religious communion testify, that Presbyterian church government is the only *convenient and adequate form*; inasmuch as none of them can proceed a step without adopting, in practice, her radical principles!' P.208. Note.

The next chapter contains the testimony of the Reformers and other witnesses for the truth, in favour of the doctrine of ministerial parity. It is here maintained, 'that the church of England stands alone in the whole Protestant world, in making diocesan Bishops an order of clergy, superior to Presbyters; and that even those venerable men, who finally settled her government and worship, did not consider this superiority as resting on the ground of *Divine appointment*, but of *ecclesiastical usage and human expediency*.' This chapter and the next on the 'concessions of eminent Episcopalians' are extremely curious and interesting. The Cranmers, and Wakes, and Ushers, and Stillingfleets of the church of England must look down with ineffable indignation on the folly of their pretended successors, who would alarm the unwary, the timid, or the ignorant in a country like this, with the *jus divinum* of Diocesan Episcopacy.

The eighth chapter professes to trace the rise and progress of prelacy; and the ninth is rather invidiously employed in displaying the 'practical influence' of the episcopal form of government; a species of argument, which, if produced at all, might perhaps have been urged with less zeal and less exultation.

Upon the whole, we consider Dr. Miller in this work, as having deserved well of the church to which he belongs, well of every ecclesiastical inquirer, and well of

the literary world in general, which is already permanently indebted to him for his admirable "Retrospect of the Eighteenth Century." We could wish, indeed, that this episcopal controversy, so totally uninteresting except to a few encroaching spirits, had never again been revived; because, from the animosity, which has invariably appeared in it, we are satisfied that the spirit of the gospel suffers more in the dispute, than any order of ministers can gain. But we also remember, that, in the wisdom of Providence, a slight occasion is permitted to excite violent passions, because, by this means, great talents are often set in motion, which would otherwise have remained dormant; a spirit of inquiry is awakened, which extends itself to other topics; and laborious and extensive researches become necessary to the honour and even to the existence of certain classes and professions. Hence we are suspicious, that our clergy will never attain to the learning, which distinguished the early non-conformists, till persecution, or insult, or opposition, or mutual controversy compels them to mutual defence. A peaceful church will invariably rest satisfied with an ignorant ministry.

We have avoided making copious extracts from the present work, because they would probably be less interesting in New-England, than in any other part of our country. Indeed, in a dispute between Presbyterianism and Episcopacy we are sensible of an inconvenient excess of impartiality, amounting almost to indifference. The substance of the arguments in favour of Episcopacy may be found, by those who wish

to study the subject, in Potter on church government, and Slater's original draught of the primitive church, in answer to the celebrated and standard anti-episcopal "Inquiry" of Sir Peter King. Dr. Campbell, in his Lectures on Ecclesiastical History, is the latest and perhaps the most powerful of the modern opponents of high church; and to him Bishop Skinner of Aberdeen has replied. No tract, however, with which we are acquainted, throws so much light on the subject of the apostolick arrangement of the early churches, as Dr. Benson's Dissertations, annexed to his paraphrase of the epistles to Timothy.

As to the dispute between Presbyterians and Congregationalists, we trust there will be no need of its revival. If however the spirit of the times should generate a controversy, the ministers of congregational churches would do well to know the grounds and reasons of our present constitution of church government. These may be found largely detailed in Cotton's Power of the Keys, Hooker's Survey, and Norton's Responsio ad Apollonium. The contest between Independency and Scotch Presbyterianism distracted for ten days the Westminster assembly of divines, and the arguments on both sides were afterwards published, by consent of the parties, in a book entitled The Grand Debate between Presbytery and Independency. This it is now difficult to procure; but the subject is not badly treated in Davenport's reply to Paget, and in many other works of the early settlers of New-England.

ART. 63.

ENEA PTEROENTA; or the *Diversions of Purley*: By John Horne Tooke, A. M. late of St. John's College, Cambridge. First American edition, from the second London edition. 2 vols. 8vo. Philadelphia, W. Duane. 1806.

We think it honourable to our country, that it contains a sufficient number of scientific readers, to justify the republication of a philosophical treatise on the English language. The first part of the *Diversions of Purley*, a few copies of which reached the United States soon after its publication, was admired for its ingenuity, and the probability of the author's theory concerning the particles of our language, and excited no small desire in its readers to see the result of his continued researches. Another edition of the first, together with the second part of this work, has since been published, from which the American edition is printed. The necessity of a review of this production in our numbers is superseded by the learned strictures of some of the author's own countrymen. This article, therefore, is designed, rather to call into notice a publication of merit; than to vindicate or combat any of the theories, which it contains.

Mr. T. has been censured for the singular intrusion of his political violence into a work where it had no concern, and for the unnecessary licentiousness of his quotations from English writers of former times, illustrative of his etymologies. For his political invective we are disposed neither to offer, nor to admit an apology: concerning the indelicacy of the quoted passages, the censure is more

fastidious than just. The work is intended for scholars, not for vulgar readers: the former are in little danger from the levities of Gower, the grossness of Chaucer, or the crudities of Sir Thomas More; and the latter are secure, on account of their inability to understand them.

There is another charge against Mr. T. in the justice of which we fully acquiesce. It is founded on his indiscriminate abuse of his predecessors, whose learning is unquestionable, and who, though they were not faultless, have made great advances toward giving stability to our language, directing us to the sources whence it was drawn, and explaining its principles.—Dunces in poetry have the right of prescription to bestow their ungentle epithets upon those, with whom they would be proud to claim kindred; and pretenders in literature have lavished their abuse upon men of genius, whose excellence they could not reach; but it should be the prerogative of those only, whose knowledge is above competition, and whose wisdom precludes a rival, to ridicule the labours of acknowledged scholars, and to ascribe their errors to invincible stupidity. As long as our language shall exist, we shall cherish feelings of gratitude towards Harris, Lowth, and Johnson: and if they have not done every thing, which the combined wisdom of English jacobinical *opavans*, with Horne Tooke for their president, could now effect, we are not rashly to admit, that they deserve reproach rather than praise.

To those, who have not seen the *Diversions of Purley*, nor any account of the work, the following view of its contents may not be unacceptable. The first volume contains remarks on the division

or distribution of language; considerations of Mr. Locke's essay "on the nature, use, and signification of language"; the division of speech, according to the author's theory, into words necessary for the communication of thought; viz. the noun and verb, and abbreviations employed for conciseness and dispatch; remarks on the noun, on the article, and interjection; observations on the word *that*, which is not allowed to be a word so mutable in signification as it is made by grammarians; etymology of the English conjunctions, of prepositions, of adverbs.

The second part, (mark how appropriate!) is introduced by observations on the rights of man. It treats of abstraction, or, as the author would prefer to term it, subaudition, by which the substantive is derived from a participle, or an adjective: as, *fact (aliquid) factum; debet (aliquid) debet-um*. Thence he proceeds to adjectives and participles; and leaves the verb, which has been the subject of more dispute and wrangling, than every other description of words in our language, to the mercy of contending grammarians.

This work will be pleasing to the etymologist, sometimes even where it is not satisfactory; and it will often be diverting to those, who are slow in discovering resemblances, from its apparent fancifulness. We are happy to see it accompanied by an index to the subjects and words, that are examined in the work. It would be pleasing to us also to recommend this edition for its correctness. But the errors, which we have noticed, especially in many Saxon words, are such, as to justify us in withholding this praise. These mistakes we presume, (for we have not thoroughly compared this with

the English edition) are generally to be ascribed to the present editor (Wm. Duane) whose *inadvertently* probably is such, that he will not take offence at the suggestion.

ART. 64.

An Essay on the human character of Jesus Christ. By William Austin. Boston, printed for W. Pelham. 12mo. pp. 120.

Mr. Austin informs the publick, in the advertisement prefixed to the volume, that he has 'endeavoured to explore a new, but indirect, source of argument, in favour of the divinity of Jesus Christ.' We have, in vain, attempted to discover this argument; nor can we determine from a perusal of the book, whether the design of the writer be 'wicked or charitable.' In either case, however, we may safely pronounce, that it will do no harm, and little good.

The following description of the great founder of Christianity is not inelegantly written.

'At about the age of thirty Jesus appeared again in publick. He was then in all the ripeness of manhood, at a period equally distant from the levity of youth, and the cares of age. He is reported to have been in his person exceedingly beautiful if you examined but one feature at a time; but his entire countenance raised in the beholder an interest which immediately affected the heart. Sympathy, awe, reverence, but most reverence, was the prevailing sentiment he inspired. These were the features of his character in the moment of repose. His stature was rather above the common size, as was his person, but finely proportioned. His hair was Auburn, gracefully flowing over his shoulders; his steps slow, firm, bespeaking a man of purpose. The most brilliant temperature of health adorned his cheeks, which, in conjunction with

his flowing beard, the fashion of those times, and a piercing, hazel, yet unassuming eye, would have rendered him altogether attracting, had not a high and gently retreating forehead of the most perfect symmetry, restrained familiarity and impressed the beholder with an emotion of respect. It was impossible to behold him, though he appeared under every disadvantage, almost suspicious, without being perplexed and dubious of the man.' P. 24.

Were this description grounded on authentick history, it would be extremely interesting; but at present must be considered as the mere creature of Mr. Austin's imagination. What is still worse, it is in direct contradiction to the word of revealed truth. Isaiah says, chap. liii. 2, 'He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty, that we should desire him.' The publick must determine between the prophet and Mr. Austin.

We should be glad to know, whence Mr. Austin derives his information, when he asserts that 'Socrates was a retired philosopher, one who led a quiet, contemplative, theoretical life.' So far from it, that he led an active and laborious life, and such was his military prowess, that he is recorded to have saved, in battle, the lives of Xenophon and Alcibiades. He delivered his lectures in publick, and spoke boldly on every subject, religious as well as civil, and attracted crowded audiences in the groves of Academus, at the Lyceum, or on the banks of the Ilysus. So far from being a theorist, he derided the more abstruse enquiries, and metaphysical researches of his predecessors, was the first who introduced moral philosophy among his countrymen, and drew her down from heaven upon earth. We recommend to Mr. Austin the perusal of Xenophon and Plato,

from whom he will gain more solid instruction, and more authentick information, than from the superficial and meagre treatises of French sciolists.

The following quotation is exactly in the French manner, which we unequivocally condemn as puerile and false rhetorick.

'Yet this temperate Nazarene preferred the brook or the rivulet to the joy of the vintage. Yet this humble Nazarene travelled Judea on foot, and never rode but once; and then in a manner that seemed to court the contempt of the populace. Yet this self-denying Nazarene frequented the tables of a Wapping and St. Giles. Yet this cold blooded Nazarene was as exemplary in his affections, as though he had been dipped, every morning in the river Cydnus.' P. 57.

We are sorry that Mr. Austin has introduced his own political sentiments into a work of this nature. He tells us that 'the virtuous Gilbert Wakefield was sacrificed in the prime of life, and the much-enduring Priestley hardly found respite on the frontiers of the wilderness.'

Now, though we have the profoundest respect for the talents and virtues of these gentlemen, yet we cannot but conclude, that their misfortunes originated in their own imprudence. Wakefield was fined and imprisoned for attempting, in a pamphlet, to dissuade his countrymen, from resisting a French invasion, an invasion threatened by the most unprincipled and ferocious ruffians, that ever disgraced human nature. He lived, however, some time after he was thus sacrificed, as Mr. Austin terms it, and published some useful and elegant works. With regard to Priestley, his departure from his native country was a voluntary act; and if he did not meet here with all the attention and re-

spect due to his talents, his warmest friends must attribute it to his own indiscretion. By interfering with our domestick politicks, and publishing political pamphlets, he justly forfeited, with prudent men of all parties, that esteem and consideration, which his almost unequalled attainments would, otherwise, have secured him.

This little Essay is, on the whole, a very harmless production, though it is not easy to ascertain its precise object. It is composed with considerable elegance and terseness of style, though we do not approve of such words as *accredited*, *test*, used as a verb, *rebellant*, &c.

He, who writes as well as Mr. Austin, may, with due pains, learn to write better, to whom we would recommend the study of the ancients, in preference to that of the French school, of which the taste is generally false, and the style affected.

ART. 65.

Memoirs of Ninon De L'Enclos, with her Letters to the Marquis De Sevigné, and Mons. De St. Evremond. Translated from the French, by Mrs. Griffith. Philadelphia: printed by T. S. Manning, for Thomas Palmer. 12mo. 1806.

We would remind the editor and apologist of these Letters and of their author, of the reply, which Johnson made to a gentleman on a similar occasion:—'the woman, sir, is a whore, and there's an end on't.' We take no pleasure in the use of an indelicate term, and regret the necessity we are under of calling things by their names;

however, it is sometimes advisable to come at the truth without the parade of a figure, and should our readers be hurt at the laconick style of our quotation, we have only to urge the plea of expediency, and to rely on their good sense for an acquittal. No, there is little to be feared from a coarse phrase, honestly delivered; and of the two, it is better that the sensibilities of a prude should be shocked, than that an infamous writer should escape without the chastisement she deserves. It is this dressing false sentiment in the graces of rhetoric, this painting the devil white as it were, that he may pass upon the unsuspecting; it is this vile cant of the prurient school of Rousseau, that is more to be feared than a blunt speech of the Doctor's.

And I can teach thee, cousin, to shame
the devil

By telling truth; tell truth, and shame
the devil.—

If thou have power to raise him, bring
him hither,

And I'll be sworn I have power to shame
him hence.

SHAKS.

The reasons assigned for presenting the American Publick with an impression of these Letters, we consider worse than impertinent; and the parallel which their ingenious Publisher has thought proper to institute between Ninon and Anacreon Moore, so much to the advantage of the former, we shall not subscribe to, unless we are previously informed what distinction can be made between a licentious enditer of lascivious prose and a shameless scribler of indelicate verses. Indeed, we have before expressed an opinion with regard to the susceptible Mr. Little and his amorous effusions, and we could not now, conscientiously, pronounce the apotheosis of his twin sister in levity, or

fall in with the Preface and make a saint of a *Cyprian*. Though it is difficult to decide, where the demerits of the parties are so equally balanced, we are rather inclined to believe, that, upon an impartial examination, the heroine of our Editor would take rank of her relation. Not that Mr. Little has been exceeded in fanning the wild fires of love, or that he is second to any in his contributions to the *Liberality's Assistant*, but because the impurities of the heart show ugliest in a woman.

A shameless woman is the worst of men,
YOUNG.

Some wits, of whom better things might be expected, not contented with the applause of the learned and polite, have, occasionally, accommodated their vein to the taste of the vulgar, and, instead of appearing before their judges in the attick dress of their order, may be figured as mounted on a barrel in the market-place, and holding forth most smuttily after the manner of Scaramouch. These eccentricities of genius, however, are more contemptible than mischievous, for those who are most taken with them, are generally of that class of which the vulgar saying is true — it is impossible to spoil what never was good; and with respect to the more delicate and refined, who nauseate the unseemly fancies of the *Pantagruelists*, they are at liberty to use the precaution not to travel foul-ways. But of those writers who, like our author, possess in common with the serpent the power to charm and destroy, against whose poison no antidote is provided, we have nothing to say either encouraging or contemptuous; for they are too deadly to be laughed at, and too insinuating to disgust. The filth and dirt which

Rabelais and Swift sometimes delight to sling about them, rarely adhere to an wholesome mind; but the sweet mischief that flows from the pens of such authors as *Nelson* and *Moore*, mixes with the heart's best blood, and distempers the whole subject.

We can not avoid fancying the influence which a writer, of the description last named, might exercise over some ingenuous nymph, of less reflection than feeling. We think that we see such an one, secretly retiring to her nest, at an unfashionable hour, with a volume of her favourite concealed in her bosom, there to regale herself, watch after watch, with love pictures and sentiment, till the nearly expended taper winks in its socket. But a truce with this common, and her insidious epistles, for we take no delight in contemplating evils which we cannot counteract; besides we are apprehensive that by this notice, we have rather enflamed curiosity, than excited aversion.

This work is well executed—
*The more's the pity; that such vile
matter should be neatly set down!*

ART. 66.

The Parnassian Pilgrim; or the posthumous works of the late Mr. William Lake. With a short account of his life. Printed at the Balance Press, Hudson, 1807.

William Lake was born in Kingston, (Penn.) on the 20th day of Sept. 1757, and was the son of an unfortunate Englishman, who, at an early age, left his own country for this Land of Wonders. After a common school education he was removed from the threshold

of science to assist his father in husbandry. At the age of thirteen a happy reverse in his father's fortune enabled him to remove to the school at Bethlehem, where he entered upon the course of studies preparatory to his admission at some public seminary. Owing, however, to his forming an attachment, which met with his father's displeasure, he resolved never to see him again, and accordingly flew off in a tangent from Bethlehem and his Dulcinea and drooped into a store at Philadelphia. It was in this situation that he composed most of his poetical productions. Between the age of fifteen and eighteen his business led him to different parts of the Union and even to Europe, returning from which, he paid the debt of nature on the 15th of December 1805; having composed no less than sixty-seven pieces of poetry, consisting of songs and odes, of elegies and epitaphs, of visions and solli-

quies, of May-day presents and trifles, the buttercups and dandelions, that spring up spontaneously "upon the lower slopes of Parnassus;" all which he vainly imagined were to immortalize his name, and which really afford another proof upon what a prodigious great scale is every thing done in this country.

Of this collection we can give our readers no better idea than by recommending to their perusal the immortal productions which daily grace our newspapers; then begging them to imagine these bound together in one volume duodecimo under whatever title best suits their taste, "the Parnassian Pilgrim," or the Muses Waiting-maid. The character of the author is fully comprised in a couplet of Pope;

"A youth foredoom'd his father's soul
to cross,
"Who penn'd a stanza when he should
engross."

FOREIGN LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL.

INTELLIGENCE.

An interesting discovery was made in the course of last year, by the Rev. Dr. Buchanan, who travelled into Travancore for the purpose of visiting the ancient Syrian Churches. He found fifty-five churches in the district of Malayala or the Christian communion, which are built in a style not unlike some of the old parish churches in England. When Dr. Buchanan arrived at the remote churches in this district, he was informed by the inhabitants, that, to their knowledge, no European had visited the place before. These churches acknowledge the patriarch of Antioch, and their Liturgy is derived from that of the early church of Antioch, called *Liturgia Jacobæ Apostoli*. The Christians of Ma-

layala differ, however, in this ceremonial from every other existing Church, and their proper designation is, 'Syrian Christians,' or the 'Syrian Church of Malayala.' The doctrines of the Syrian Church are contained in a very few articles, and are not at variance in essentials with those of the Church of England. Their bishop and metropolitan, after conferring with his clergy, delivered the following opinion:—'That an union with the English Church, or at least such a connection as should appear to both Churches practicable and expedient, would be a happy event, and favourable to the advancement of religion.' It is in contemplation to send to England some of the Syrian youth for education and ordina-

tion. The present bishop, Mar Dionysius, is a native of Malayala, but of Syrian extraction.—The Church of Malayala have till lately received their bishops from Antioch; but that patriarchate being now nearly extinct, they are inclined to look to Britain.

Syrian Christians are also connected with the Churches of Mesopotamia and Syria (two hundred and fifteen in number), which are at present in a declining state, and struggling with great difficulties.

The Syrian Christians in Malayala still use the Syrian language in their churches, although the Malayalime is the vernacular tongue. Efforts have been made to translate the Syriac and Scriptures into Malayalime, but it has not hitherto been effected, for want of suitable means. On its being proposed to send a Malayalime translation to each of the fifty-five churches, on condition that they would transcribe it, and circulate the copies among the people, the elders replied, that so great was the desire of the people to have the Scriptures in the vulgar tongue, that it might be expected that every man who could write would make a copy on ollas (palm) leaves, for his own family.

On investigating the Syro-Chaldaic manuscripts, in Malayala, some of great antiquity were discovered. The Syriac version of the Scriptures was brought to India, according to the belief of the Syrians, before the year 636 (A.D. 325) and they allege their copies to have been exact transcripts, without any known error, down to the present day. Some of these are certainly of ancient date; one found in a remote church amongst the mountains contains the Old and New Testaments engrossed on strong vellum, in large folio, having three columns in each page, and is written with beautiful accuracy. The character is Estrangelo Syriac, and the words of every book are numbered. The volume is illuminated, though not after the European manner. It has suffered some injury from time or neglect,

some of the leaves being nearly decayed. The Syrian Church assigns to this manuscript very high antiquity. The order of the books of the Old and New Testament in it differs from that of the European copies, a chronological arrangement being more attended to in the former. The first emendation of the Hebrew text (Gen. iv. 8.) proposed by Dr. Kennicott, is found in this manuscript. The disputed passage in the 1 John v. 7. is not in it.

In some other copies that verse is interpolated in black ink, which was done by the Romish Church in 1599. Two different characters of writing appear to have been in use amongst the Syrian Christians, the common Syriac and the Estrangelo, the oldest manuscripts are in the latter.

There are other ancient documents highly interesting, amongst which are certain tablets of brass or mixed metal, which were supposed to have been lost, but have since been recovered, and which are stated to contain grants of certain privileges to the Christians of Malayala. The plates are six in number, closely engraved, four of them on both sides the plate. The oldest tablet is engraved in triangular headed letters resembling the Persepolitan or Babylonish. On the same plate there is writing which has no affinity to any existing character in Hindostan. The grant on this tablet appears to be witnessed by four Jews of rank, whose names are distinctly written in an old Hebrew character resembling the alphabet called the Palmyrene, and to each name is prefixed the title of 'Majen,' that is, Chief. The Jews of Cochin also produce tablets, which they contend are of equal, if not greater antiquity. It is intended to print a copper-plate fac simile of the whole of these plates, making fourteen pages, and to transmit copies to the learned societies in Hindostan and in Europe.

Some ancient manuscripts have also been found among the Black

Jews in the interior of Malayala. An old copy of the Law was found written on a roll of leather about fifty feet in length, the skins being sown together.

It is intended to deposit such of the Syriac and Jewish manuscripts as are found to be valuable, in the publick libraries of the British universities.

LITERARY ADVICES FROM AUSTRIA.

The sale of books, although reduced very low in Germany, has no where suffered so much as in the Austrian States. In better times the commerce in books in Austria was never very flourishing, one reason was, that good articles were seldom offered to the booksellers, and another that they deterred many authors of reputation by their niggardly proposals. The name of Vienna on the title page was enough to impede the success of a work. Can any thing good come from Vienna? was the question of many foreigners; and not altogether without reason. Among a continual round of eating and drinking, restlessness and noise, the restraints of the censurate, and the manifest want of inclination for the nobler employments of the mind, evinced by the higher classes, how could any thing sublime or mental flourish? Very few of those to whose care is committed the reputation of the country appear to feel the importance of this object. The few noble minds which take a higher stand, are pretty much isolated, and are not understood. No attention is directed to improve the native dialect, and from ignorance of a better language, the Austrian *patois* is spoken in the best circles, wherein one might expect to find superiour information. It must indeed be acknowledged, that there is no province in Germany where the youth are more tormented with the etymological part of the German language; yet at the same time none where such bad German is spoken, and for the greater part written, as in Austria. Literary

excellence is no where so little valued as in Vienna. A delight in cavalcades and dogs, and an unreserved devotion to the spirit of commerce, in the eyes of most people, constitute a valuable man. How is it possible, under these circumstances, that any thing distinguished in the republick of literature, can appear in the imperial residence? It has often been observed that people of the greatest literary reputation, and the most extraordinary diligence while they remained abroad, immediately as they choose Vienna for their residence, have relinquished the path of literature. Notwithstanding these facts, the superiour booksellers here, have in general transacted business to advantage. People buy books, at least, if they do not read them. Several booksellers indeed, have kept large stocks on hand. Degen published superb works. The late Director of Camesina's concern, Beck, edited very important works in a truly elegant style: Geistinger did the same; and Schaumburg, who doubtless keeps the best assortment, and serves his customers with the greatest promptitude, has edited many valuable articles. But few publications meet the wished for sale; and, it was therefore natural that one bookseller after another, should either cease from keeping stock, or reduce it very low, and now, when there is little demand, the dealers are too fearful to undertake any thing considerable. Geistinger appears to risque the most, and to succeed with some articles from Hosor, Glatz, and Trattinik; but in his publications he reckons much on a fair exterior. The mob of pirates, and dealers in piracies, find the most advantage.

This great monarchy does not produce one distinguished publick paper. Our political newspapers are sick: some in a consumption, others in a dropsy. For some time there was talk of the speedy appearance of a journal, under the title of Austrian Leaves (*Oesterreichische Blätter*) which was to

embrace much, but at present nothing is said about it. There are some appearances as if the Censuraeche would unobservedly become milder; at least many free spoken words in the foreign newspapers, receive the 'toleratur,' if not the 'admittitur.' The more noble wish that those who sit at the helm may read and ponder these words; and, what might be of the best consequence, would lay them before the sovereign, who by the great candour of his mind, and the rare uprightness and goodness of his heart, might easily receive other and more correct views of many important subjects, whereby certainly various things assume a more friendly form, and the general welfare of the monarchy might be greatly promoted. For a truly noble mind to shew itself in the Empire of Austria, will be very difficult when the superior characters in the state do not cherish a literary and scientific education, nor excite emulation by honours and publick distinctions. A more free and liberal turn of mind is greatly wanted, a disposition fettered by no censure unnecessarily rigid, and frustrated by no little pedagogick school plan, a spirit secure from the suspicion of mean hypochondriack minds, who view but one side of a question. Those who know our beloved emperor, and his enlightened ministry, assure us, loudly, that a national turn of mind, of this nobler description, might easily be hoped for, if it attained publicity enough to engage the attention of a prince who judges so candidly, and intends so uprightly as Francis II. Of the literary journals, that of Halle is the most read; after this, that of Jena; of other periodical works, the Free Thinker (*Das Freymuthige*) is most in request, and after that the Gazette for the elegant world (*Zeitung für die elegant Welt*.) The Minerva of the lively and industrious Archenholtz, which since the breaking out of the last war, contains many pertinent remarks and sentiments of serious import, rela-

tive to Austria, is here read with much approbation. Greatly is it wished, that many truths contained therein, might engage the attention of our monarch. The gazette of Neuwid retains its former estimation, and notwithstanding much distorted and superficial reasoning, enjoys a great reputation among the higher ranks.

The booksellers in the provinces, for the most part, do no business of consequence; but occupy themselves principally with pirated editions. In Hungary, especially, the trade in books is rendered difficult in many ways. In Presburg, Schwaiger does the most business; he also travels through the country with books. In Pest, Hartleben has attempted to become an editor, which is rather an unusual thing there: but the attempt is not likely to boast of great success. These Hungarian towns have the most commerce in books; in most other towns of that country, the bookbinders are at the same time booksellers, or rather bookbrokers.

The Gazette of and for Hungary, edited by Schedius, appears, in the present state of the commerce in books, not likely to be soon resumed. Bredelyky's contributions to the topography of Hungary, which contain many good things, is not relinquished, but will be concluded with the fourth volume. The industrious Kovachich continues very active in the history and literature of his country; he is now occupied with the idea of a new edition of the *Corpus juris Hungarici*, much augmented by many happily discovered old imperial statutes. The historian, Von Eugel, appears in his historical character to keep holiday. Schwartner is still; and if the times do not soon improve, by-and-by every thing will be still; but it will be the stillness of the tomb.

We shall add a succinct view of the

AUSTRIAN JOURNALS.

It is well known, that the patriotic journal of M. André, counsellor of education, at Brunn, ceased

with the month of June, 1805, M. André having been invited into Bavaria; however he is not yet gone thither, on account of the war, and other circumstances. A competent successor to continue this useful and much read journal has not been found.

A journal which M. Von Hanke, in Olmutz, intended to have published, under the title of *Slawenka*, and of which one number appeared in 4to in 1804, from the university press, at Buda, is interrupted by his death. This number contained a critical account of a copy of an old Sclavonian Bible, in the possession of the editor's family, which is by no means a master-piece of criticism; and evinces no fundamental knowledge of the Sclavonian language. A journal is published at Prague, entitled *Slawin*, 'a message from Bohemia to all Sclavonian nations,' by Joseph Dobrowski, member of the Royal Bohemian Society of Sciences at Prague, and of the learned Society at Warsaw. 8vo., 2 numbers cost 1 florin.

Another journal is likewise published at Prague, quarterly, under the title *Hlasatel Cesky*, 'The Bohemian Prophet,' by Mr. John Necedly, Doctor of Laws, and Professor of the Bohemian Language and Literature in the University there. The object of this publication is to combine entertainment with information, but especially the promoting and perfecting of the Bohemian language and literature. Two numbers have appeared, whose contents correspond with this object. They include translations of select pieces from Lucian, Cicero, Pope, and the Messiah of Klopstock. The editor is assisted by Witsch Necedly, J. Mysliwecki, Joseph Jungman, and others.

Mr. Stephen Kultsar has entitled his paper, published at Pest, in the Hungarian language, *Haza tudositabok*, 'Advices of our native country.' He has already more than 200 subscribers; and the Comitatus wish to remove the prohibition, by which he can insert nothing but domestick Hungarian

articles. A sheet is published twice a week, since July 2. Price for the half year, 4 florins. Mr. Kultsar, formerly Professor of Elocution, and tutor to the young Count Festerits, writes a pure Hungarian style.— This journal finds its way into the neighbouring countries, as Servia, Bosnia, Moldavia, and Walachia. We flatter ourselves that it will furnish us with various articles which may increase our acquaintance with the state and productions of Hungary.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The high price of books is a subject of general observation, yet few persons take the trouble to ascertain the causes, or to make comparisons between their prices and those of other articles, or to examine into their prices in England and in other countries. The increase of price arises principally from the prevailing taste of the publick, which gives encouragement only to fine printing, superfine paper, and costly embellishments (or rather which discourages plain and simply useful printing), and partly from the advanced prices of printing, engraving, and all the materials of which a book is composed. Every person must be aware, that the price of a book must be governed in a certain degree by the number of copies printed, because the expence of setting up the types must be divided among the number of copies. The same principle holds in regard to the labour of authorship, the charges for engraving, and all the other preliminary expences which are necessary to the production of the first copy. It is another principle equally obvious, that the number of copies sold will, in a certain degree, be in the inverse ratio of the price, that is, if the book be cheap, more copies will be sold, and if dear, there will be a smaller number of persons who can afford to buy it. It follows therefore, that whatever tends to increase the first cost of a book to its publisher, tends in a still higher degree to

raise the price, because the necessary increase of price will occasion a diminution of purchasers; consequently all the preliminary expenses must be borne by a smaller number of persons, or be laid on a smaller number of copies. The fault is obviously therefore in the luxurious taste of the times, which has forced the printers of books to enter into a competition to render all publications superb, and consequently costly, and every shilling in the intrinsic value of a copy of a book, adds three to its price, on account of the necessary reduction of the edition, and on account of the increase in the first cost, which adds proportionally to the hazard of success. Books, it will be apparent, are unlike most other articles; a weaver may make one, or one hundred yards of cloth at the simple cost per yard of the labour, and the material, whether for one yard, or for one hundred; but in the production of books, it costs nearly as much to produce one copy as one thousand, all the expenses being the same for one copy as for one thousand, except the intrinsic value of the paper and a small expence for press work. It follows then as a practical and important inference, that the lovers of literature ought to consider fine printing, superfine paper, macaroni embellishments, and every thing that adds uselessly to the cost of books, as destructive of literature itself, and that the judicious part of the publick ought to give preference to that style of printing, which the more effectually answers the purposes of communicating knowledge, or they will in time be the means of raising printed books to the price of manuscripts. Enough has been said to inform the publick of its duties, and this paragraph has already exceeded its bounds, or the writer had intended to prove that books have not risen in price more than other articles, and that they are much cheaper, *ceteris paribus*, than in any other country in Europe, and at half the

price at which they can be produced in America.

The valuable library of the late professor Hensler, of Kiel, in Holstein, has been purchased, and lately imported to Edinburgh, by Messrs. Constable and Company. It consists of upwards of one thousand five hundred volumes, of the most choice description; comprising the rarest and most valuable editions of all the best Greek and Roman classicks, and was considered to be one of the most select private classical collections in Germany.

Mr. Walter Scott has received a thousand guineas for his new poem, entitled, 'Marmion, or a Tale of Flodden Field.' It is in the press, and will speedily be published.

The late Rev. Dr. Symonds, professor of modern history, in the university of Cambridge, had devoted a considerable share of attention to the English languages, with a view of rectifying the mistakes and inelegancies observable in the composition of our best writers. His numerous avocations prevented him from completing the work, but he had at the time of his death made considerable progress in the preparation of it. The part which he had finished, and which contains his remarks on British writers, is intended to be shortly published, and from the ability of the author, the publick may anticipate its value.

A new edition of Langhorne's Plutarch, with a great number of corrections of the text, and considerable additions to the notes, by the Rev. Francis Wrangham, is nearly ready for publication.

Professor Porson is about to reprint, in one volume, the four plays of Euripides, before published separately. They have been for some time past remarkably scarce.

It is intended to convert the elegant building which was lately the depository of the Leverian Museum, into a literary institution, on the plan of the Royal and the London Institutions. We wish well to this design, because it will accommodate parts of the town remote from the other institutions, and add another means to the general diffusion of knowledge.

Sir Joseph Banks has recently stated the advantages to be obtained by inuring tender plants, natives of warmer climates, to bear the severity of that of England. In the case of annuals, he mentions this is effected with little trouble, as all that is required is: to enable them to ripen their seed in a comparatively cold summer, after which the hardest frost will have no power to injure it; but a perennial has to encounter frosts with its buds and annual shoots, that have sometimes been so severe with us as to rend asunder the trunks of our indigenous forest-trees. In 1791, some seeds of *Zizania aquatica* were procured from Canada, and sown in a pond at Spring Grove, near Hounslow. They grew, and produced strong plants, which ripened their seeds. These vegetated in the succeeding spring, and so on every year, the plants springing up from the seeds of the preceding year, and becoming visibly stronger and larger, and rising from deeper parts of the pond, till the year 1804, when several of the plants were six feet high, and the whole pond was in every part covered with them. From this, and other similar experiments, Sir Joseph proposes to sow the seeds of such shrubs as occasionally ripen them in the English climate, after the example of the *Zizania*, which, in fourteen years, became completely naturalized to our climate.

The Bishop of London has transferred 1200*l.* stock to the Master and Fellows of Christ's College, Cambridge, and directed the interest of it to be laid out annually in the purchase of three gold med-

als, to be contended for by the students of that college; one of fifteen guineas, a prize for the best Latin dissertation on some evidence of Christianity; another of fifteen guineas, a prize for the best English composition on some moral precept of the gospel; and one of ten guineas, a prize to the most distinct and graceful reader in, and regular attendant at, chapel; and the surplus, if any, to be laid out in books, and distributed by the Master.

There has been published at Halle a work entitled, *Letters on the interior relations of the Court of Prussia*, since the time of Frederick II. These letters have excited the public curiosity to a high degree, and are said to be very interesting.

The University of Leipzig has resolved henceforth to call by the name of Napoleon that group of stars which lies between the girdle and sword of Orion; and a numerous deputation of the University was appointed to present the conqueror with a map of the group so named.

The new organization of the Academy of Sciences at Munich still occupies the attention of the Bavarian government. Its labours are to be more extensive than those of any similar institution in Europe; for it is to have, under the direction of the ministry, immediate superintendance over all the establishments for public instruction in the kingdom of Bavaria. The president of the academy is to be the privy counsellor Jacobi, a man respected throughout Germany, as well for his philosophical writings as for his personal character. Among the other academicians whose names have been announced to the publick, are those of M. Seyffer, an astronomer, late director of the observatory of Gottingen; M. Eichhorn, the celebrated historian and orientalist, also from Gottingen; M. Wiebeking, from Vienna, distinguished for his knowledge in hydraulicks; and M. Wolf, known by a valuable History of the Jesuits.

The royal library at Munich, already very considerable, is about to be augmented by a commission, empowered to select for it every valuable article found in the libraries of the suppressed monasteries. The collection of pictures at Munich, by the addition of the galleries of Manheim and Dusseldorf, is become one of the finest in Europe, the Museum Napoleon alone excepted.

Mr. Olbers, the celebrated astronomer of Bremen, discovered, on the 29th of March, a new planet; the second for the knowledge of which we are indebted to that indefatigable observer, as it is well known that he is likewise the discoverer of the planet Pallas.

The beautiful gallery of Salzthal, which belonged to the late duke of Brunswick, has arrived in France. It is particularly rich in the first-rate productions of the Flemish school. The duke had made considerable additions to it during the first ten years of his government.

The numerous objects of the fine arts collected in the Museum of Cassel, as well as the beautiful gallery of pictures in that city, and the colossal statue of Hercules, which decorated Weissonstein, near Cassel, have also reached the French capital. The collections of Paris have been further enriched by the antiquities found at Berlin and Potsdam, which alone filled one hundred chests of prodigious size.

M. Peyron has announced at Paris the publication of an account of the voyage and discoveries in the South Seas in the corvette *Geographe* and *Naturaliste*, in the years 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803, and 1804. This work will be in two volumes quarto, and will contain forty-one charts. M. Peyron was the naturalist to the expedition, and has compiled this account of the voyage by command of Bonaparte.

M. Leichenhault, one of the naturalists belonging to the expedition under Captain Baudin, who was detained at Batavia by illness, is arrived at Nantz with a superb collection of natural history, and one of the most valuable collections of arms and instruments, &c. procured from Otaheite, Java, and the adjacent islands. He has neglected no means of enriching natural history, by furnishing several kinds hitherto unknown.

Bonaparte has founded at Marseilles a Professorship of the Arabic language, to which he has appointed Don GABRIEL, formerly Missionary at Cairo, with a salary of 8,000 francs.

The new planet, discovered by Dr. OLBERS has likewise been seen at Paris. It is visible to the naked eye, and its size seems to be nearly that of a star of the fifth magnitude; and its distance nearly the same as that of the other newly discovered planets, Ceres, Pallas, and Juno.

M. Hesse, a native of Germany, who has been settled some years as a bookseller at Amsterdam, has undertaken the publication of a collection of Greek classics. He proposes printing three different editions, two in octavo, and one in quarto. Of the latter, only fifty copies will be taken off, and they cannot be obtained without subscribing.

A new monthly publication has been begun at Madras, called the *Indian Magazine*, and *European Miscellany*, containing a selection of literary and other intelligence from Europe; and original information on subjects connected with the British possessions in India. The first number, embellished with a view of Madras from the beach, made its appearance on 1st of February.

AMERICAN.

Letter from W. Thornton, Esq. to the Members of the North Carolina Gold Mine Company.

Gentlemen,

I lately visited the land in North Carolina belonging to the company; and rode several days in various parts of it. The fertility of the soil exceeded very much the most favourable idea I had formed of it. I saw some of the best corn in it that I saw during our whole route through Virginia and North Carolina, and I was informed by general Steele, late comptroller of the United States, who resides not far from the lands, that he had made particular enquiries respecting them, since my former visit, and learnt that they were very good corn and cotton lands, and it was his opinion; if the company kept the lands a little while till they could select such portions for the gold as they might incline to retain, they might sell the remainder for the whole purchase money they gave, viz. 110,000 dollars. Some of the corn I thought so fine, was in ground that had been in cultivation for ten years; and this is the driest year that the oldest inhabitants remember for fifty years.

The grounds, except in a few cultivated places, are generally covered with good timber. Some company viewing the land with me, measured one of the trees by the road side, and found it nine feet six inches circumference, and above a hundred feet high; orchards of apples, peaches, &c. flourish in a very luxuriant manner, and red clover, with plaister of Paris for a manure, grows astonishingly.

Before I mention the gold runs, it may be proper to observe that the healing springs are surrounded within the distance of half a mile by the company's land. These are powerfully chalybeate, and were resorted to from various parts of the country, as well as South Car-

olina, not only on account of the tonic virtues of the water, but also in consequence of the salubrity of the air and healthiness of the country. From the number who have visited these springs this summer, (the first) it is imagined they will be much resorted to hereafter.

This was one of the most unfavourable seasons I could have selected for an examination of the runs for gold. They were dry, like most of those we passed in Virginia and North Carolina; indeed so dry that no examination could be made of them for gold but with great trouble, as it was necessary to carry the sand and gravel in small portions, sometimes above a mile, before water could be found; and what gold was obtained was principally found by washing the gravel and sand where there was water, rather than by searching for the gold where there were indications; and though this was the case, I did not see a single frying-pan full of gravel and sand washed without gold being found therein. Some fine specimens were thus obtained, one about two pennyweights, and some smaller: but after we had obtained about twenty dollars worth, we were prevented from proceeding by the want of water to wash for more—though, from what I saw, I am of opinion we might have got some hundred dollars worth in a very short distance if the branch had not dried up. While we were engaged in washing for gold, Mr. Love, one of the proprietors of the adjoining mine of Mr. Read, on washing some of our gravel and sand, in which he found gold, said in my hearing, that he really thought our prospect as good as theirs. They have only four hundred acres; and though it is said that they have obtained between thirty and forty thousand dollars worth of gold from this small place, they value it still

at one hundred thousand dollars. We possess thirty-five thousand acres at least ! The gold of our land is perfectly pure, and requires no refining. I visited Mr. Read's mine, and found that by amalgamation with quicksilver, which is very easy, and which answers completely, a great quantity of gold is obtained from the sand, after picking out all the lump gold. I was informed they got about six or seven ounces at a distillation, several times a week, from a very small still. I afterwards visited the mines of Mrs. Parker and Mr. Harris. They lie in a hill that intersects the company's land. Mr. Harris, in ploughing across a small branch in his land, turned up a good sized piece of gold. Having no regular weights, he tried it in a pair of scales against a pewter plate and spoon, which it outweighed. He then searched the run, and was successful in finding gold. This little branch runs immediately into the company's land, lying between it and Mrs. Parker's. But it was dry, and I consequently made no search in it, nor in any of the branches on that side, though I heard of gold being found in several.

Mrs. Parker's mine was discovered in a very unexpected manner. Hearing of several discoveries, she said in a joking manner to some company while drinking tea with her, "I wish, gentlemen, any of you could find a gold mine in my land." On which Mr. Etherton said, "I will go, madam, and search for you." He went, and in a little time returned with a very good specimen. After this they found six hundred dollars worth, and this season three hundred more, though they had not yet prepared any apparatus for even washing the gravel and sand. They were making a small wooden machine when I was there.

I cannot pretend to give an account of all the places where gold has been discovered in the grounds belonging to the company, for it will take some time before they

can be sufficiently explored, and but few of the streams and small runs have been searched in the slightest manner. Every place examined, though some lie many miles apart, has furnished gold, except one, and that had but a very slight examination, and perhaps not deep enough. Among the principal places that promise well, from the small trials made, I must mention the Rock-hole creeks, which are branches that join about three miles below their sources. The one where I got most of the gold, in consequence of there being a small supply of water, is the west branch. The upper end could not be examined, nor any place but one, for want of water. The east branch is supposed from a single trial to be good, but the want of water prevented any further search. Three forks of Island creek, about three miles each, contain gold; but little search could be made for the same reason. Mr. Robins, who lives below, told me he found gold below the junction of these branches—some was found in Cucumber creek. The prospect good. Some in the Camp branch of Island creek, also in Long creek and below Mr. Harris's. Mrs. Osburn took only as much sand and gravel as she could carry from her hands, from a small spring in the company's land between the Rock-hole branches, and on washing it found a piece equal to a dollar, and two pieces equal to half a dollar in value, besides some smaller pieces. It appears on examination that some of the hills are rich in gold; and I think it is not carried far by the currents, but only falls down into the small hollows and little branches near which it originally lies, as it has been found in considerable quantities in the smallest depressions on the hills, as well as in the more deep runs and branches. Were we to measure all the runs, the small branches, the springs and depressions where gold has been found in the company's land, I think I may admit the truth of the current opinion there, that the com-

pany possess 100 miles of gold land. Though it may be highly advantageous to work some of the places already discovered, and particularly Rock-hole branch, and the Spring branch, I think a further examination of the runs essential, as it is admitted our discoveries already made entitle us to expect immense returns, if our operations be well directed in the first instance. The expenses are so very trifling, that the whole necessary apparatus will not cost two hundred dollars; but the particulars will be laid before the directors, for their consideration.

I am, gentlemen,
Very respectfully, &c.
W. THORNTON.

City of Washington,
Oct. 20, 1806.

A new epick poem, entitled *THE COLUMBIAD*, in ten books, by Joel Barlow will shortly be published by C. and A. Conard, in a splendid quarto. This work will be ornamented with twelve engravings, from original paintings, by English artists of the first celebrity. The paper is from the manufactory of Amies, the types from the foundry of Binny and Ronaldson, and the printing is executed by Messrs. Fry and Kammerer.

Dr. Ramsay has prepared for the press a new edition of his *History of the American Revolution*. He has carefully revised what was formerly published, and added two chapters of original matter: One exhibiting a connected history of the British colonies, now the United States, as far as the same is illustrative of the revolution, its origin, principles, predisposing causes, and of such events as prepared the way for the grand event. The last chapter, or rather appendix to the revolutionary history, will contain a brief view of the United States, since the revolution, down so near to the present time as will be suitable. In this chapter the order of time will not be followed, but the order of things connected together in one unbroken view relative to the same subject. The relations between this country, Britain, France and Spain, for example, will be unfolded, each separately from first to last. If the blessings of peace are continued to our country, we may expect soon to be

favoured with this valuable and popular work, which has long been out of print.

THE Rev. Dr. Trumbull, who has published, with much reputation to himself and his country, the first volume of his history of Connecticut, has for several years past been engaged, at the request of the General association in Connecticut, in writing a *GENERAL HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA*, for the purpose of displaying the *divine agency* in their settlement, growth, and protection, and specially during the late memorable revolution. The work will probably be comprised in three octavo vols. of about 500 pages each, of the size of the English edition of Dr. Gordon's history of the revolutionary war. The first vol., which is ready for the press, brings down the history to the year 1760. The second volume is in forwardness, and it is expected the whole will be completed in such period, as that, after the first volume shall have been put to press, (which will be the next spring at farthest) the others will be in readiness to succeed it, without delay. The manuscript of the first volume of this work has been submitted to the critical inspection of the Rev. Dr. Dwight and the Hon. John Trumbull, judge of the supreme court, both well known in the literary world, and has received their decided approbation.

Messrs. Belcher & Armstrong, printers, of Boston, have just published the second edition of an abridgment of the *History of New England*, for the use of young persons, by Hannah Adams. To which is added a valuable Appendix. In the opinion of the most respectable British critics, this elegant and instructive summary is not only creditable to the ingenious and industrious author, but is incomparably the best synopsis of events that has yet appeared in America. Some of the first political and literary characters in the state of Massachusetts have strongly sanctioned the use of this abridgment in schools and academies. The recommendation which these gentlemen have published in most of the Boston Journals is expressed in glowing terms of praise, and a literary club of no mean renown, have advised the general adoption of this little manual. We once had an opportunity of witnessing the collo-

quial and literary powers of the amiable author, and we have no hesitation to declare, that her multifarious reading, sound judgment, correct, perspicuous, and fluent style claim for any book that she may compose, a candid and attentive perusal.—*Port Folio*.

ESPRIELLA'S LETTERS FROM ENGLAND.

Messrs. Munroe & Francis, of Boston, are publishing, in one* duodecimo volume, an elegant, and very

*The English edition very diffusely printed in three. One of the principal advantages we derive from the republication of British books is, a portable size, and consequent cheapness. The enormous prices of foreign books, enhanced by the illiberal, disgraceful, and absurd imposts of our government, nearly interdict Literature from our country. Learning should never be taxed, and Genus disdain the idea of a manacle.

instructive and entertaining work, entitled "Letters from England, by Don Manuel Alvarez Espriella. Translated from the Spanish by an English Gentleman."

This interesting work is a great curiosity. Remarks on England by a student from the University of Alcalá, are quite a novelty in the literary world; but the most extraordinary circumstance remains behind.

After a very careful perusal of these letters, we have acquired the right to declare, that it is the most accurate description of English scenery and manners, that in the form of a tour has yet appeared. We have not access to the original, but the English translation is extremely spirited and elegant.—*Ibid.*

CATALOGUE OF NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR NOVEMBER.

Sunt bona, sunt quedam mediocria, sunt mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

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—The second number is in a state of preparation for the press and will soon be offered to the publick. It will contain the consummation of the introduction; an Essay on Iron, wrought Iron, Steel and construction of French Iron Guns. The English construction of Brass and Iron Guns, all that relates to French and English Mortars, Howitzers, &c. The 3d number will contain the Field Horse and Mountain Artillery.

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The Heavenly Footman; or a description of the man that gets to heaven. Together with the Way he runs in; the marks he goes by; and Directions how to run, so as to obtain. By John

Bunyan. Boston. Lincoln & Edmands. 1807.

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The Vicar of Wakefield, a tale. By Oliver Goldsmith. 12mo. Philadelphia, Hopkins & Co. 1807.

Nos. VII. VIII. and XI. of Shakespeare's Plays, containing King John, Richard II. Henry IV. first and 2d parts, Henry V. Henry VI. first and 2d parts. 12mo. Boston, Munroe & Francis.

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From the 8th London edition. To which is prefixed, a life of the author. By Andrew Kippis. 8vo. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss.

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WORKS IN THE PRESS.

The Tenth Volume of the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, is in the press of Munroe & Francis of this town, and will be published in February.

An Elementary Treatise on Pleading in Civil Actions, by Edward Lawes, of the Inner Temple, is just put to press by Messrs. Thomas & Tappan, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in an 8vo volume.

Munroe & Francis of this town have in the press, and will publish in ten days, in a handsome 12mo. volume, Letters from England, by Don Manuel Alvarez Espriella. Translated from the Spanish.

Manning & Loring of this town have in the press an 8vo volume of Select Sermons, by the late Rev. Samuel Stillman, D. D. late pastor of the 1st Baptist church in Boston.

Wright, Goodenow, & Stockwell, of Troy, have in the press, and will publish about the middle of next month, a new and interesting work entitled "Travels in the year 1806, from Italy to England, through the Tyrol, Styria, Bohemia, Gallitia, Poland and Livonia; containing the particulars of the liberation of Mrs. Spencer Smith" (sister in law to Sir Sydney Smith and daughter of the Austrian Ambassador at the Ottoman Porte) "from the hands of the French Police, and of her subsequent flight through the countries above mentioned: effected and written by the Marquis De Salvo, member of the Academy of Sciences and Literature at Turin, &c.—the first American Edition.

It will be comprised in a duodecimo volume of about 240 pages, printed with a new and handsome type, on white velum paper, ornamented with an elegant likeness of the author, by Fairman.

Messrs. Conrads & Co. of Philadelphia have in the press *The American Register*, Volume 1, edited by C. B. Brown. This work is to be continued semi-annually.

A new and improved edition of *Modern Chivalry*, &c. 2 vols. and

The Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, part second of volume sixth.

Mr. T. S. Manning of Philadelphia has in the press 'The Lay of an Irish Harp,' and the third edition of 'The Wild Irish Girl,' by Miss Sydney Owenson, the Mrs. Sheridan of Ireland. Both these works merit the attention of the friends of female genius.

B. & T. Kite of Philadelphia have in the press Chaptal's *Chymistry*, with improvements and additions by James Woodhouse, M. D. professor of chymistry in the University of Pennsylvania, in two volumes octavo. They have also in the Press, a letter on the *Innoculation of the Vaccine*; practised by Dr. Francesco Calcagni, translated from the Italian, by Edward Cutbush, M. D. A sketch of the character, and an account of the last illness of the Rev. John Cowper, A. M. written by his brother, the late William Cowper, Esq. of the Inner Temple.

Saul, a poem, by Sotheby, the elegant translator of *Oberon*, is in the press of David Carlisle of this town. It is a blank verse epick, in two parts, four books to a part.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

E. & J. Larkin of this town have issued proposals for printing *An Inquiry into the nature and causes of the Wealth of Nations*. By Adam Smith, LL.D.; with notes, supplementary chapters, and a life of Dr. Smith, by William Playfair. Two vols. octavo, at 6 dol.

Oliver and Munroe of this town have issued proposals for publish-

ing *the Pleasures of Human Life*, in one volume 12mo.

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Belcher and Armstrong of this town have put to press *The Pleasures of Love*, a poem.

They have likewise issued proposals for printing *The Life and Works of the late Thomas Chatterton*. This work will contain his miscellanies and poems, together with the poems attributed to Rowley, and be comprised in an 8vo. volume of about 600 pages, at \$2,25 boards.

Ephraim C. Beals, of this town, proposes to publish by subscription an elegant English work entitled *Anecdotes, Historical and Literary, or Miscellaneous Selections of curious and striking passages from eminent modern authors*. 12mo. 300 pages; 112 cts. extra boards.

Snelling & Simons, of this town, intend publishing a new Song Book, untitled, *The Choice Entertainer, and Amusing Companion*. 12mo. 120 pages, 75 cts.

Proposals have been offered in this town for printing a monthly publication, entitled *The Useful Cabinet*. This work will be conducted by the 'New-England Association of Inventors and Patrons of Useful Arts,' and its design will be to collect and diffuse valuable knowledge in all the arts and sciences, more particularly of new inventions and discoveries in America. Each No. will contain 24 pages octavo, with one or more engravings, at 20 cts.

Dr. Waterhouse of Cambridge is about publishing 'A continuation of the progress of vaccination in America; together with a narrative tending to shew the importance of Decorum in a young physician.'

Proposals are issued by Samuel Holyoke, A. M. for publishing a new Collection of Sacred Musick, entitled, 'Harmonia Sacra, or the Occasional Assistant, Vol. I.' containing pieces adapted to publick occasions. 4to. pp. 200. \$2.

William Fessenden, Brattleborough, Vt. has now in press, a neat edition of Jones' Law of Bailments—12mo—on an entire new type, and fine vellum paper. He has also in press Stewart's Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind. This valuable book will be printed "page for page" from the Philadelphia edition, on a new pica type, and good paper.

Proposals are issued by Edmund M. Blunt, for publishing Brown's Dictionary of the Bible, from the last London Edition, in 2 vols. 8 vo. with maps.

Mr. S. F. Bradford will shortly publish a new and interesting work, entitled "A Portraiture of Methodism," being an impartial view of the rise, progress, discipline, doctrine, and manners of the Wesleyan Methodists, by Joseph Nightingale.

Proposals are issued in Philadelphia for printing, in two octavo volumes, a new work, entitled, 'The Military Tutor,' to be delivered to subscribers in eight numbers, price 50 cents each. The work will contain 16 copperplate engravings, shewing upwards of 100 movements, as now in practice by the Troops of the United States.

Messrs. Birch & Small of Philadelphia are about putting to press Works of St. Pierre, accompanied with Memoirs of his Life, and Notes, critical and explanatory, by Francis Sobreil. This work will be printed from the London copy of 1807.

W. P. Farrand & Co. are preparing for press Bacon's Abridgment with copious additions, comprising points of English and American Law, since Mr. Gwillim's notes were added.

Mr. Samuel Wood, of Philadelphia, proposes publishing by subscription, an abridgment of the Book of Martyrs. To which will be prefixed, a brief collection of the most remarkable passages and living testimonies of the Church of God, and faithful Martyrs, in all ages; and of the corrupt fruits of the false Church in the apostacy. There will be annexed to the work, an account of the just judgments of God on persecutors, collected from Ancient His-

tories and the Scriptures. Also, a plea against persecution for the cause of the conscience, grounded on Scripture, Reason, Experience, and the Testimonies of Princes and learned Authors.—This work will contain about 600 pages, octavo, ornamented with a copperplate frontispiece, descriptive of some particularly cases of sufferings, price \$2 bound.

Buck's Miscellaneous Works, in three volumes 12mo., price \$3, are proposed to be published, by subscription, from the Theological and Literary Press of W. W. Woodward of Philadelphia.

Mr. Woodward has also issued proposals for publishing, in 6 duodecimo volumes, \$1 each, the complete Works of the Rev. James Harvey.

Mr. William Schultz, a Dane of liberal education, and who, we understand, is indebted for his scientific attainments to the Military Academy of Copenhagen, proposes to publish, by subscription, at the press of Messrs. Smith and Maxwell, of Philadelphia, a translation from the Danish of an instructive work, entitled "Philosophy for Students" in three parts. 8vo. Price \$2 to subscribers.

Proposals are offered in Philadelphia, for publishing by subscription, in English and French, "The Economy of Human Life," translated from the English of the celebrated Mr. Dodsley, into French, by J. Marie De Bordes, 1 vol. 18mo. Price 75 cts.

Doct. James Ewell of Savannah, has issued proposals for publishing a new work entitled the Planter's and Mariner's Medical Companion.

Proposals are issued by the Rev. William Price and Joseph Jones of Wilmington, Delaware, for republishing Gill's Expositions of the New Testament in 4 Volumes.

ERRATA.—In the last No. of *Silva*, in the line from *Virgil*, at the beginning, for 'foreibus' read *fontibus*. In the 9th line, by some unaccountable mistake, the word 'Adventurer' crept in, for which read 'Rambler;' and for 'furnitures' read 'furniture'—all on page 545. In a part of the impressions of the present No. p. 615, line 15, for 'drooped' r. 'dropped;' line 27, for 'soliloquy' r. 'soliloquy.'

MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY,

FOR

DECEMBER, 1807.

For the Anthology.

REMARKER, No. 28.

Quot frutrices Sylvæ, quot flavae Tiberis arenas,
Millia quot Martis gramina campus habet,
Tot mala pertulimus ! quorum medicina quiesque
Nulla nisi in studio est, Pieridumque mora.

Ovid. Met.

It is observed by philosophers, that in proportion as our knowledge of nature becomes more extensive and exact, the simplicity of all her operations becomes more evident. Every new investigation discovers new relations, unfolds new affinities, and displays new points of resemblance between substances apparently the most dissimilar, and the theory revived by Newton and Boscovich is no longer considered visionary, which supposes all the varieties of external nature to be only modifications of the same primary matter. What, indeed, may not be expected, when we find it demonstrated that water contains a large portion of the most combustible principle in nature ; and that charcoal and the diamond are only varieties of the same elementary substance ? Yet with all this simplicity it is curious to remark, that there is no identity ; that nature never exactly repeats her own productions ; never copies herself. The leaf of this tulip is a little more deeply and delicately tinged than that of yours, and a minute observer will detect some latent and almost imperceptible shades of difference between

your rose and mine. The same uniformity and the same variety is visible in the intellectual, as in the natural world. The minds of all men seem to have been originally cast in similar moulds ; and the incomparable Hartley has shown how plausibly all the mental-phenomena may be explained by the application of the single theory of association. The particular diversity of men's minds is even more remarkable than their general similarity, and the proposition is assented to as soon as it is proposed, that no two men are in all respects exactly alike. This variety is nowhere more obvious than in the difference of our habits of investigation and thought ; and the Remarker, with the leave of his readers, intends to amuse himself by employing this month's speculation in considering the various classes of thinkers among mankind.

Rousseau makes but one sweeping division of our race, into those who think and those who never think ; but the thought is hardly brilliant enough to atone for its want of accuracy. There are, to be sure, many, who, as they never appear to think rationally, seem

scarcely to have a claim to the dignity of intellectual beings; yet, as they have been included in every definition of man, which has ever been made, and as it would be difficult to prove them to be any thing else, if you deny them to be men, we must from necessity, if not from courtesy, admit that they are members of the species. 'God made them, and therefore let them pass for men.' Yet of that class of beings, such as, for instance, the fop, the belle, and hoc genus omne, who float loosely on the current of life, mere idle gazers on the light of heaven, without regard for the past, or care for the future. Of those, too, such as your men of luxury and pleasure, who reverse the design of nature, and make mind the slave of sense, who employ their mental powers only as the ministers of passion and the panders of indulgence; of those, in fine, whose powers seem merely sensitive and mechanical, who spend their lives in calculations of immediate interest, without hope or fear beyond the acquisition of wealth; of such beings it is indeed difficult to conceive, as sharers of the same powers, and capable of the same designs, with those who have employed their lives in labouring in the cause of wisdom, virtue, and truth. It would be absurd to waste a moment in ascertaining the rank of men, thus feeble, effeminate, and degraded, in the scale of thinking beings. We will pass, therefore, to the consideration of the class of those, whom I shall denominate the *superficial thinkers*.

There are some mental qualities, which it is not uncommon to hear men acknowledge that they do not possess. There are many, for instance, who, from real or assumed humility, will confess that

they want the fancy of poetry, or the vivacity of wit; but the records of literature and of life do not furnish an instance of one, who was willing to believe that he wanted the power of thinking justly and profoundly. Yet every man, who has exercised his faculties in the investigation of truth, knows that to be an original and philosophick thinker is the most difficult of all attainments. When we consider the difficulty of comprehending at one view a subject in all its bearings and dependences; of separating those circumstances which fairly affect a conclusion, from those which are accidental and superinduced; of balancing the opposing probabilities, which the ambiguity of language and the artifices of ingenuity create; of following all the windings, and disentangling all the multiplied involutions of error; of anticipating and fairly appreciating all possible objections; in short, of contemplating right and wrong at one survey in their general, invariable, and abstracted state;—it must be allowed, that to be a great and original thinker, calls for the highest exercise of all the nobler faculties of our minds. It requires a man self-collected and independent, superiour to passion, to prejudice, and sloth; humble yet not mean, active yet patient, bold yet cautious, persevering, fearless, and decisive, neither to be dazzled by novelty, ensnared by cunning, nor seduced by plausibility. For a man of the most resplendent powers to become a thinker of this description is no light task; it is not wonderful, therefore, that great thinkers are few. To think profoundly is always toilsome; and this sufficiently explains why the majority of those who think at all should think loosely and superfi-

cially. To doubt, too, is always painful, and this sufficiently explains why most men should leave the labour of investigation to others, and press hastily and rashly to confident conclusions. If I might be allowed to adopt the language of metaphysicks, I should say, that most men seem impatient to lose the liberty of indifference, and catch at the first motive, which has weight enough to make the intellectual balance preponderate, without stopping to consider, whether there are no objections, which may affect the opposite scale.

It might be supposed, that those, who thus think superficially, would at least not decide dogmatically; yet exactly the reverse is usually found to be true. The credulous, who is too timid, and the sceptick, who is too vain to doubt long and patiently, are always confident and exclusive in their opinions. As they arrive at the conclusions, which they hold, not by balancing, and analyzing, and comparing arguments, but by adopting some guide, whose boldness has overawed, whose wit has fascinated, or whose plausibility has ensnared them; and as of course their minds are nearly passive, while the premises are presented to them, their conclusions are implicitly and peremptorily adopted. As in such an investigation they have felt no objection themselves, by a very natural operation of self-love they believe, that none can exist, and therefore they, without hesitation, pronounce, that all who disagree with them, must take their choice between the epithets of fool or knave. It is not uncommon to find the superstructure of such men's faith more lofty and broad, in exact proportion as the foundation of it is weaker and more narrow.

It may, indeed, almost be assumed as an universal truth, that they are always most presumptuous, whose opinions have the least support; and that those only lay claim to infallibility, who are farthest from truth. A man must know something of the difficulty of investigation before he can conceive of the possibility of erring in important subjects, without intention and without crime.

There is another class of men, not much superiour in intellectual dignity, but for a very different reason. Those are superficial, because they read too little, but these because they read too much. I mean to speak of the mere readers of books, of those whose views terminate in the bare contemplation of other men's ideas, and who never dream that reading is only valuable, as it furnishes materials of thought. The sentence of Plautus, when applied to such men, almost ceases to be a paradox, *nesciunt id quod sciunt*. They often succeed in accumulating immense masses of learning, but their learning is always heavy, sluggish, and unproductive; we may admire it, as we do a pyramid, for its magnitude, but after all, when we examine it closely, we only see one huge stone piled on another, without object and without use. It is needless to point out any of the individuals of this class; for we find them in every profession. My gay readers, I suppose, will be disposed to single out their examples from among the mathematicians; and it is not to be denied that the mathematicians have their share of them. Let us not, however, join in the common cant of ignorance and frivolity. We must allow, indeed, that a man may know the mere practice of mathematics, without possessing any

other earthly knowledge. But the difference between such a man and a philosophical mathematician is exactly the same, as between the drudge who learns an art, and the genius who invents the theory on which it is founded. For myself, I am almost disposed to believe D'Alembert, when he asserts* that there is as much exercise of imagination in Geometry as in Poetry, and that, of all the great men of antiquity, Archimedes has the highest claims to be placed by the side of Homer.

I return now from this digression to the consideration of a class of men of nobler powers and more exalted claims, but who must, notwithstanding, be denominated the *visionary thinkers*. These are men, in whom imagination predominates; who always think ingeniously, but seldom solidly; who are so busy in seeking what is uncommon and remote, that they often neglect what is obvious and important; who delight to refine, and distinguish, and invent, more than to weigh, to compare, and combine; men, in short, who will teach you what Goldsmith means by 'cutting blocks with a razor,'

* L'imagination dans un Géometre, qui crée n'agit pas moins que dans un Poète, qu'invente. Il est vrai, qu'ils opèrent différemment sur leur objet; le premier le dépouille et l'analyse, le second le compose et embellit. Il est encore vrai, que cette manière différenciée d'opérer n'appartient qu'à différentes sortes d'esprits; et c'est pour cela, que les talens du grand Géometre et du grand Poète ne se trouveront peut-être jamais ensemble. Mais soit qu'ils s'excluent, ou ne s'excluent pas l'un de l'autre, ils ne sont nullement en droit de se mépriser réciproquement. De tous les grands hommes de l'antiquité, Archimède est peut-être celui que mérite le plus d'être placé à côté d'Homère. — *Discours Préliminaire*, de l'Encyclopédie, p. 16.

and what Shakespeare may be supposed to mean by 'cavilling on the ninth part of a hair.' Of this class you commonly find poets, when they attempt to become reasoners; when they lay aside the full and flowing robes of the prophets, and put on the cap and gown of the logician. Who needs to be referred for an illustration of this to the slender, yet subtle, speculations of Lucretius, to the ingenious refinements of Cowley, or to the unintelligible metaphysics of Milton? To this class, rather than to any other, I should refer the reasoners from feeling and imagination more than from judgment and evidence. Here, then, I should rank Rousseau; and here, too, forgive me, ye his idolaters! here too, with hesitation and trembling, I should place the name of Burke.

De Retz, in his memoirs, describes a man of *extension*, but without *comprehension* of mind; and this distinction must be kept in view in order to appreciate the next class, which I shall notice, and who may be called the *occult or metaphysical thinkers*. This is principally composed of those who reason so much, that they forget to feel; who are so much philosophers, that they cease to be men. They are seldom great enough to look down on the same, which is raised merely on novelty and boldness of speculation, and their ingenuity is continually exercised and perverted in seeking after something, which may dazzle by its originality, and sterile and confounded by its opposition to established opinions. The few scepticks, who have not been so from fashion and vanity, have always been men of this class. They reason too well not to discover, that reason is limited and weak; but this knowledge of their ignor-

ance, instead of teaching them in patience and humbleness to wait till the designs of Providence are developed and justified in a better life,* only draws from them repinings at the evils of life, doubts of the goodness and even the existence of God, and all the vain and presumptuous struggles of 'reasoning pride' against the wisdom which ties it down to imperfection, and the earth.† These are the men whom Burke intends, when he talks of the 'thorough-bred metaphysicians.' They are men, who always carry their distinctions and abstractions about them; they bring metaphysick from the head, and introduce it into the bosom; they will theorize to you upon charity, and refine, and speculate, and distinguish upon mercy and love. They are men, who always breathe an atmosphere different from ours; they live in the loftier regions of a mountain, above, indeed, some of our clouds; but then the snows are eternal there, the air is too rarified for human life, and the flower, and the bud, and the fruit wither and die. Such are all the

disciples of Pyrho, such were Spinoza, and Hobbes, and Collins, and Hume. There are some men, however, who seem to fall naturally into the class of acute and metaphysical thinkers, who yet are exceptions to most of these remarks. They are men, whose feeling has not been strangled by speculation, who have all that we admire in the men I have named, with nothing that we dread and detest. They usually reason wisely and solidly, always ingeniously, though sometimes fancifully. Of this description I suppose were Berkely, Descartes, and Leibnitz.

We have now arrived at the last and least numerous class which I shall consider. I mean the profound and philosophick thinkers; the rare and sublime spirits, which are occasionally given to the earth by providence, to rectify the opinions of mankind, to redress the evils, which the pride and presumption of inferior natures have introduced, and to vindicate the wisdom, the harmony, and benevolence of the arrangement of the universe. They survey man and nature from an eminence, high enough to raise them above the passions and prejudices of the world, but yet not so lofty and remote as to make them mistake the nature and destination of our race, or to remove them from a share in our feelings and hopes. Their theories are therefore as simple and practicable, as they are comprehensive and sublime. These men have none of the vanity of inferior minds, none of the pomp of philosophy, none of the arrogance of learning; they alone, of all the world, seem ignorant of their own august powers. It is not necessary to repeat the names of any of these men; for the number of them is too small to make

* See Hume's Dialogues on Natural Religion, passim.

† There has always been a remarkable inconsistency in the conduct of scepticks. If a man, after slow and deep meditation, is compelled to believe, that the world is the offspring of chance, he ought, one would think, to doubt in silence and sorrow. Since he cannot enjoy the consolation of believing that he is under the protection of a God, his philosophy, if not his humanity, ought to teach him not to disturb the consolations of others. But the sceptick is always found to be desirous of making proselytes, and fortifying his own hesitating belief by the assent of others. An apostate always hates the religion he has renounced.

Le temple l'importune, & son impiété
Voudroit anéantir le Dieu qu'il a
quitté. *Racine—Athalie.*

It is not necessary to repeat the names of any of these men; for the number of them is too small to make

it possible to mistake in appropriating this description. It is a remark which I cannot refuse to make, for it is one, which no man can suppress, who is interested in the success of that religion, which, if true, is of all things most interesting to mankind, that there is no one, whom even a candid sceptick would venture to place among these men, who did not give his belief and support to christianity; no one, whose genius was not ennobled by the humility, and whose learning was not consecrated by the piety of the gospel.

There are men, who seem to partake of some of the qualities of the individuals which compose all the classes I have made; and therefore who cannot, in strict propriety, be ranked exclusively under either of them. Of these, some want sufficient activity, and some sufficient amplitude of mind, to enlarge greatly the boundaries of

human knowledge; others, who want neither industry nor powers, diffuse their minds over too wide a surface, and attempt to embrace too great a multitude of objects; they drink from all the wells of science, without sounding any to their depth. Among these may be found many minds, elegant and classical, acute and comprehensive. But it would be quite without my design, if it were not beyond my powers, to classify all these varieties of excellence, and distinguish all their shades of difference and defect. If I have succeeded in observing some of the general divisions of the thinking part of mankind, and seized some of their more obvious and strongly marked characteristics, I have fulfilled my vocation; for who demands a system from an essayist, or who expects philosophy from one, whose ambition is contented with the praise of a Remarker?

RT. HON. CHARLES JAMES FOX.

The following character of Mr. Fox is copied from the *Bombay Courier* of the 17th January. It is ascribed to Sir JAMES MACKINTOSH.

Mr. Fox united, in a most remarkable degree, the seemingly repugnant characters of the mildest of men and the most vehement of orators. In private life he was gentle, modest, placable, kind, of simple manners, and so averse from parade and dogmatism, as to be not only unostentatious, but even somewhat inactive in conversation. His superiority was never felt but in the instruction which he imparted, or in the attention which his generous presence usually directed to the more obscure members of the company. The sim-

plicity of his manners was far from excluding that perfect urbanity and amenity which flowed still more from the mildness of his nature, than from familiar intercourse with the most polished society of Europe. His conversation, when it was not repressed by modesty or indolence, was delightful. The pleasantry, perhaps, of no man of wit had so unlaboured an appearance. It seemed rather to escape from his mind than to be produced by it. He had lived on the most intimate terms with all his contemporaries distinguished

by wit, politeness, or philosophy, or learning, or the talents of public life. In the course of thirty years he had known almost every man in Europe whose intercourse could strengthen, or enrich, or polish the mind. His own literature was various and elegant. In classical erudition, which, by the custom of England, is more peculiarly called learning, he was inferior to few professed scholars. Like all men of genius, he delighted to take refuge in poetry, from the vulgarity and irritation of business. His own verses were easy and pleasing, and might have claimed no low place among those which the French call *Vers de Société*. The poetical character of his mind was displayed in his extraordinary partiality for the poetry of the two most poetical nations, or at least languages of the West, those of the Greeks and the Italians. He disliked political conversation, and never willingly took any part in it. To speak of him justly, as an orator, would require a long essay. Every where natural, he carried into publick something of that simple and negligent exterior which belonged to him in private. When he began to speak, a common observer might have thought him awkward; and even a consummate judge could only have been struck with the exquisite justness of his ideas, and the transparent simplicity of his manners. But no sooner had he spoken for some time, than he was changed into another being. He forgot himself and every thing around him. He thought only of his subject. His genius warmed and kindled as he went on. He darted fire into his audience. Torrents of impetuous and irresistible eloquence swept along their feelings and conviction. He certainly pos-

sessed, above all moderns, that union of reason, simplicity, and vehemence, which formed the prince of orators. He was the most Demosthenean speaker since Demosthenes. 'I knew him,' says Mr. Burke, in a pamphlet written after their unhappy difference, 'when he was nineteen: since which time he has risen, by slow degrees, to be the most brilliant and accomplished debater that the world ever saw.' The quiet dignity of a mind, roused only by great objects, the absence of petty bustle, the contempt of shew, the abhorrence of intrigue, the plainness and downrightness, and the thorough good nature, which distinguished Mr. Fox, seem to render him no very unfit representative of that old English national character, which, if it ever changed, we should be sanguine indeed to expect to see succeeded by a better. The simplicity of his character inspired confidence, the ardour of his eloquence roused enthusiasm, and the gentleness of his manners invited friendship. 'I admired,' says Mr. Gibbon, 'the powers of a superior man, as they are blended, in his attractive character, with all the softness and simplicity of a child: no human being was ever more free from any taint of malignity, vanity, or falsehood.'—From these qualities of his publick and private character, it probably arose, that no English statesman ever preserved, during so long a period of adverse fortune, so many affectionate friends, and so many zealous adherents. The union of ardour in publick sentiment, with mildness in social manners, was in Mr. Fox an hereditary quality. The same fascinating power over the attachment of all who came within his sphere, is said to have belonged to his fa-

ther; and those who know the survivors of another generation, will feel that this delightful quality is not yet extinct in the race.

Perhaps nothing can more strongly prove the deep impression made by this part of Mr. Fox's character, than the words of Mr. Burke, who, in January, 1797, six years after all intercourse between them had ceased, speaking to a person honoured with some degree of Mr. Fox's friendship, said, '*To be sure he is a man made to be loved!*' and these emphatical words were uttered with a fervour of manner which left no doubt of their heart-felt sincerity.

These few hasty and honest sentences are sketched in a temper too sober and serious for intentional exaggeration, and with too pious an affection for the memory of Mr. Fox to profane it by intermixtures with the factious brawls and wrangles of the day.

His political conduct belongs to history. The measures which he supported or opposed may divide the opinion of posterity; as they have divided those of the present age. But he will most certainly command the unanimous reverence of future generations, by his pure sentiments towards the commonwealth, by his zeal for the civil and religious rights of all men, by his liberal principles, favourable to mild government, to the unfettered exercise of the human faculties, and the progressive civilization of mankind; by his ardent love for a country of which the well-being and greatness were indeed inseparable from his own glory, and by his profound reverence for that free constitution, which he was universally admitted to understand better than any other man of his age, both in an exactly legal, and in a comprehensively philosophical sense.

For the Anthology.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

From an American Traveller in Europe to his Friends in this Country.

LETTER TWELFTH.

Naples, Jan. 2d, 1805.

MY DEAR SISTER,

THE country around Naples was originally settled by the Greeks, and was known by the ancients under the name of Magna Græcia. Possessing a mild and delightful climate, a volcanick soil, and the most enchanting landscapes, it was always a favourite spot with the Roman Poets, and in the later times of luxury and effeminacy it became the fashionable resort of the rich and voluptuous. Always subject to volcanick eruptions, its

bosom inclosing a great variety of metallick substances in a state of chemical change, it has in all ages exhibited phenomena, which have either arrested the attention of the philosopher, or contributed to the gratification of the sensualist.

In a great variety of places in this neighbourhood are to be found hot springs, and warm vapours, which the Romans converted to purposes of luxury or health, but which their indolent successors wholly neglect.

About six miles from Naples, on the beautiful bay of Baia, stands

the ancient town of Puteoli, by corruption now called Pozzuoli. This city was in former times respectable, but by earthquakes and volcanoes the face of Nature has been so changed, that little remains of its ancient splendour. There are still, however, some vast ruins, which project into the ocean, and which are by the vulgar called the Bridge of Caligula, but which the antiquaries have decided to be the remains of the ancient mole, which formed the port. To an American this idea of forming an *artificial port* is, happily for our country, a strange one. Nature has been so liberal in its indentations of our coast; our harbours are so naturally defended, either by promontories or islands, that we have no necessity to form *artificial* defences against the ravages of tempests. In the European world, and particularly in the Mediterranean, it is far otherwise. Almost every port in this part of Italy is directly open to the inroads of the ocean, and the inhabitants owe their security to artificial, not to natural boundaries. These moles, the most *expensive*, are in some instances the most *stupendous* works of ancient or modern times. It is probable, that the ruins, which they call *Caligula's bridge*, were a part of the mole of this city, which, in those days, was a very considerable one; but there is a colour for the opinion of the vulgar, as it is conceded, that *Caligula did* build a bridge in the same direction over the bay of Baia, to connect the city of that name with Pozzuoli, or Puteoli. That weak and wicked monster took a fancy to imitate the naval triumph of Xerxes, and did accordingly construct a bridge of boats from Baia to Puteoli, a distance of three miles, over which

he passed in splendid triumph for three successive days.

Near Pozzuoli there is also a ruin of a temple of Jupiter Serapis, which from the size and elegance of the pillars must have been a splendid edifice. The remains of an amphitheatre, which are also found in an unquestionable shape, serve to shew how widely and universally the spirit of luxury and dissipation pervaded every part of the Roman dominions. I do not recollect, that I have seen one considerable city, which could not show some relics of an amphitheatre.

Near Baia you are shown some huge and mishapen ruins, which they call the baths of Nero. All this part of the territory of Naples has been so repeatedly convulsed by earthquakes, or covered with the ashes of volcanoes, that it is very difficult to trace with any accuracy the position of ancient edifices. A great variety of compartments and brick arches render it highly probable, that this was really what vulgar tradition has represented it. Entering a low grotto, which was evidently an antique arch, you pursue an artificial passage, which rapidly descends towards these celebrated springs. As soon as you enter, you encounter a hot and suffocating vapour, which the strongest man could not long support. The guides, accustomed to this office, are stripped to the skin, and even in this situation they come out in a state of violent perspiration. I found however, that the warm vapour, being specifically lighter than the cool atmospherick air, ascended to the top of the passage, and that, by passing down with the head near the ground, one would avoid the insupportable heat of the superiour vapour. The heat of

the water, which issues out, is so great, that it will boil eggs in the period of time usually allowed; and after the water had been brought out in a vessel into the open air, it was too hot to permit you to keep your hand in it for the space of a second. I regret, that I had not a thermometer with me, but I entertain no doubt, that it was at the *boiling* point. What must be the internal state of the earth, which could produce so powerful a heat? And what must be the dangerous state of a country, undermined by such incessant and violent fires? This spring is however eighteen miles distant from Vesuvius, and the city of Naples intertenea. Either then the awful phenomena of Vesuvius extend under the city of Naples to this spot, or the city has a distinct subterraneous enemy on the side of Baia as well as of Vesuvius. As you return from Baia to Naples, on the bay of Baia, you pass a very considerable mountain, called the Monte Nuovo, and which was wholly the product of a volcano in the 16th century. The spot, on which it stands, was a lake, called the Lucrine lake, and the country around it was level and fertile. On a sudden, after the usual presages of thunders and earthquakes, a most awful volcanick eruption took place, which in a very short space of time threw up sufficient matter to form this mountain. It is a regular, handsome hill. For nearly a century after its formation its dry and arid surface refused sustenance to vegetables; but at present it is covered with verdant shrubbery, and forms one of the brightest ornaments of this enchanting bay.

Advancing still nearer to Naples, you meet with one of the most extraordinary hills in this

land of wonders. It is called *Solfaterra* from the nature of its production, which is sulphur. The whole hill is one vast mass of sulphur and mineral productions. The very surface and the stones are of a bright sulphureous colour. The ground is hollow, and resounds under your feet. From innumerable crevices a sulphurous vapour, of the most fetid nature, is perpetually ascending. Dig a few inches into the ground, and the heat is too intolerable to permit you to keep your hand in it. Silver is instantly discoloured, if placed in any such opening. In some spots smoke and fire ascend in sufficient quantities to enable the workmen to prepare the sulphur and the salts, which they collect here.

Without the least human exertion, that I could perceive, except the erection of some stone or brick flues, sulphur, alum, and sal ammoniac, were collected in perfect state.

This spot is not more than five miles west of Naples. It has been in this state for centuries, and only experiences changes with the phenomena of Vesuvius. It is said, at least, that, during the eruptions of that mountain, *Solfaterra* emits an unusual quantity of smoke. The fact is too material in the natural history of this volcano to be admitted on slight evidence.

I think, however, I have introduced sufficient sulphureous exhalations for one letter, so I shall defer the further consideration of this warm subject till another occasion.

On the whole, if Naples has not all the rich variety of Rome, it has wonders and curiosities of another species, which render it equally interesting. I wish I may see

good in rendering it so to my friends.

The prevalence of cloudy weather has prevented my visiting Vesuvius, or Pompeia, and the holidays have equally deprived me of the pleasure of examining the antiquities, collected at Portici. There are more embarrassments in the way of access to the curiosities of Naples, than to those of any part of Europe. You cannot enter a museum or palace, without a special license from the crown, which can only be obtained from some diplomatick character. I owe my permissions to the civility of the British ambassador, our nation having no minister here; but since I have obtained them, the publick places have been closed.—This jealousy is, in my opinion, a Spanish trait, this family, you know, being of the royal family of Spain, the present king of Naples being the son of Charles III. the last king of Spain.

Before I can proceed to give you any account of the impressions made upon me by the other curiosities of Naples, not noticed in my former letters, I will state such miscellaneous facts and anecdotes with relation to this country, as may serve to amuse you during a leisure hour. I am sensible however, that you can scarcely meet with a writer, who will not give you a much more correct picture of the Neapolitan character, than I can pretend to do; yet I know, that there is some degree of satisfaction in receiving information directly from a friend, whose credibility we know how to estimate. On whatever I relate, as of my own knowledge, you may rely; and whenever an author states any facts, contrary to my own observations, I shall particularly notice it.

The weakness and inactivity of the king of Naples have been the subject of remark by every writer, who has visited this country, for thirty years past. His disgraceful flight and desertion of his realm, which he might have defended, when invaded by Maccdonald at the head of his French freebooters, were not calculated to contradict the prevailing opinions of his imbecility. Still, however, I was determined to inquire if the facts warranted these rumours to his disadvantage. The king of Naples has, without doubt, pretty good sense; but having been under a long regency in consequence of his coming to the throne while very young, he acquired a passion for hunting, an aversion to business, an indifference to fame, and even honour, which have been the bane of his subjects, and the ruin of one of the finest kingdoms in Europe. No country in the world possesses richer materials for national grandeur, than Naples. The people are hardy, healthy, and even brave, when duly excited and properly directed. The territory is the most fertile in Europe. It has an immense extent of sea-coast, and in Sicily the best harbours in the world. It produces more grain than it can consume. It exports wine, oil, salt, salted provisions, cotton, and silk. It has all the materials for war. It produces all the metals, and no one can doubt, that it has sulphur and nitre sufficient to blow up all its enemies.

With all these advantages it is the weakest and most degraded government in Europe, and is governed by the worst policy, both with regard to its foreign connections and its internal regulations, as I shall take occasion to notice in the various desultory remarks, which

I shall hereafter make. At present I return to the royal family.

The king of Naples is married to the daughter of one of the best and greatest women who ever honoured a sceptre, Maria Theresa, the empress-queen. The late king of France, you will recollect, married another daughter. Abandoned to trivial amusements, not honourable to a private man when they become *empire, manners* instead of relaxations, the king of Naples trembled when he saw ruin impending over the other branches of his family, and stalking with rapid strides towards his devoted realm. Unaccustomed to any warfare, except against the beasts of the field, or the birds of the air, he shrunk under the apprehension of a more honourable contest; and though he possessed a numerous, well-appointed, and I believe if properly commanded, a brave army, he deserted the defence of his capital, and basely fled to Sicily, and placed himself under the safeguard of the British squadron, then protecting those seas.

That the retreat was unnecessary was fully proved by the sequel. The cardinal Ruffo, an ecclesiastic, a man of bravery and virtue, went into Calabria, and by his spirited exhortations and anathemas against those infidels the French, roused the hardy mountaineers, inspired them with a zeal for their liberties and religion, and marching at their head, in his ecclesiastical habiliments, entered Naples at the head of 40,000 men, forced the garrison to capitulate, and drove the French troops out of the kingdom. Soon after which the king of Naples appeared off the city with a British fleet, commanded by lord Nelson, and a scene took place, which has stamped the character of the king of Naples (or

his queen), and of all others, who were accessory to it, with indelible infamy. Lord Nelson himself does not wholly escape censure in this country, and I wish that an impartial biographer may undertake to support, and nourish in verdure the laurels, which so many well-earned victories had wreathed around his brow. The anecdote is interesting, as it affects royal and elevated characters. The authenticity of the facts I shall state, is unquestionable. It is very possible they may admit some *allegation*, perhaps justification, on the part of lord Nelson. When a man has acquired so great a name, one ought to admit censures with distrust.

I first heard the story from a Roman gentleman of honour and reputation, but I repelled the attack on lord Nelson's fame with indignity. On my arrival here, Mr. —, who is warmly Antipallican, and who was on the spot through the whole revolution, confirmed the story I had heard at Rome; and one of our own distinguished officers assured me, that the British officers at Malta spoke with regret of the part, which the British commander had taken in the affair.

Originally the Neapolitan gentry and people were not revolutionary. When the king deserted them, they were obliged to submit to the French, who, as usual, instituted a *revolutionary machine*, which they called a Neapolitan republic. Many, and indeed most of the first families in Naples, took part in this new system, considering the crown abdicated by the ignominious flight of the king. In the turn of affairs, Ruffo retook the city, signed a capitulation with the officers of the new government, by which it was agreed, that their

states should be preserved to them, and that they should be at liberty to remove in safety. On these conditions they submitted to Ruffo, who was the *authorized* officer of the king. They were accordingly put on board the ships to be transported to France. Lord Nelson and the king arrived; at first they did not object against the convention, but prepared to execute it.

Suddenly a change, owing, as is alleged, to the queen, took place several days after the signing of the convention and the arrival of the king. The nobility and gentry, concerned in what *all parties*, whom I have seen, agree was *no rebellion*, were seized, sent on board Nelson's fleet, tried summarily for high treason, and executed. Their estates were confiscated, and their families disinherited. Even young men of 17 and 20 years of age perished on the scaffold.

I was slow to believe, because I know how apt people are to misrepresent acts of *just severity*; but I am obliged to say that I think there is evidence that this was an impolitic violation of faith.

Eternal curses will, in *this country*, rest on the heads of the advisers of this measure, should they

be *certainly* known. It is attributed to the queen and lady Hamilton; by the influence of the *last* of whom, the Neapolitans pretend that lord Nelson was induced to come into the project. I wait for stronger proof before I give credit to the charge.

The result of this infamous breach of good faith and of policy, has been, to render the royal family obnoxious, and of course cowardly.

Perhaps it has had, and will continue to have a deeper effect on the destinies of Europe, than may be apparent at first blush. We know that the dread of revenge, of punishment for all past offences, of overturning all titles acquired under the revolution, are the most powerful obstacles to the return of the Bourbons to France. What a sad lesson in support of these fears is the example of Naples! If a loyal people, who were deserted by their sovereign, were punished for *submitting only* to a conqueror, what must those dread, whose hands are stained with royal blood, and whose poniards are still reeking from the bosoms of a slaughtered nobility?

Yours, &c.

For the Anthology.

DUTIES OF GENIUS AND LEARNING TO BE ACTIVE AND USEFUL.

THE excuses, which learning offers for its indolence and inactivity, are generally weak or fallacious. They either have little foundation in reality, or else they are the miserable productions of sophistry, eager to secure consciousness of guilt from merited reproach. Perhaps, indeed, no peculiar justification can be made for

that *vis inertiz*, that tendency to rest, which is so often the torpifying incumbrance of genius, and which sometimes is as constant a law in the intellectual, as in the physical world. But the ordinary apologies I do not propose now to examine, because it may be said, that no crime has been perpetrated, and therefore excuse is absurd;

no proof of guilt has been exhibited, and consequently innocence is supposed. Why is the possessor of intellectual treasures constrained to communicate his property to others? Where is the obligation, however imperfect, which results from the duty of exerting in favour of mankind those powers, which are the gift of nature, and those acquisitions, which are the fruit of diligent cultivation?

These objections have an air of authority, which is apt to mislead. They should therefore be critically examined, and impartially condemned. Their appearance of ingenuity should be removed, and their power of seduction destroyed; for they are delusive as the rainbow on the hill, and thin as the dewy exhalations of the morning.

The complete perfection of the moral world, to be exhibited in the conduct of the children of men, is not merely a sublime subject of reflection, but a consummation devoutly to be wished. Such a state of existence has been credited in the reveries of philosophers, and some, more ardent than others, have prophesied the period of its commencement. Yet, notwithstanding the authority of Dr. Franklin and other benevolent theorists, there seem to be insurmountable obstacles to the formation of such a system of being. The constitution of the body, the violence of passions, the vagaries of fancy, the impotency of reason, and other sources of disorder, present dangers not to be encountered, and difficulties not to be overcome. But although it is impossible to reach perfection, shall we be contented with a state susceptible of improvement? Shall we rest satisfied with an order of existence capable of much melioration? Shall the traveller indolently loiter at the

foot of the mountain, because he cannot reach the summit, weary with snow, or fiery with lightning? Shall the architect confine himself to the building of cottages, because his genius cannot construct the mighty magnificence of the temple of Solomon, or the ponderous immobility of the pyramids of Egypt? If then, we can make approximations to excellence, happiness constitutes a duty, not easily to be resisted. Every one becomes bound to advance a system of general exertion, creating a source of general advantage. Where the benefit is to be universal, the toil, which is necessary, must partake of its nature. Every society, constituted for particular purposes, must necessarily have a right of obligating its members to the performance of their several duties for the attainment of the common good. In like manner every general system, desirous for the enjoyment of a common acquirable benefit, by the known laws of its nature, imposes a duty and enforces an obligation on its constituent parts to perform in their order and degree, what ever to them peculiarly appertains. If these principles were not physically and morally true, no advantage could be gained by arrangement. Every combination of mechanic powers for a particular object, creates in each a mode of acting, which may not accomplish its purpose, if the most insignificant wheel could refuse its proper rotation. The sun, the planets, the comets, and the other celestial orbs, whether visible or invisible, form the system of creation; generating universal good by laws, ascertained by infinite wisdom, and established by infinite power; yet this stupendous whole, diffusing tranquil, silent rapture over the heart of the universe,

spectator, and enforcing adoration on the expansive mind of the searching astronomer, would lose its sublime harmony, and rush blindly to universal ruin, if the smallest satellite to the smallest planet could forget the law of its particular nature, or refuse submission to the ordinance of general gravitation.

Upon principles of obligation, therefore, genius and learning seem necessitated to exert their powers for the benefit of mankind. They are forced to act a conspicuous part, because their ability is capable of diffusing more than an ordinary share of felicity. Accordingly as the gifts of nature are of extensive or limited operation, the possessor must display his riches and scatter his benevolence; the genius should open his treasures of fancy, and the student his stores of erudition. Intellectual riches have no peculiarity of exemption from the duty of communicating good, and certainly none from the power. Indeed learning has such ability to extend the sphere of general happiness, that he must be considered as something more than an ordinary tyrant, who refuses to grant the petitions of all, when the concession is attended with no diminution of power. If in political society the miser is stigmatised as a general enemy, who thwarts the intention of the legislator by keeping his hoarded treasures from general circulation, what shall be said of the scholar, who is master of all the learning of every age, and whose genius has grasped the ensigns of sovereignty in the world of invention, and yet tyrannically refuses to communicate felicity by a bestowal of wealth, which would tend by extension of authority to personal aggrandisement.

If the sons of science, instead of being inactive and indolent, had resolutely offered to the world their learning, it is not difficult to say, that the mass of knowledge would have been much increased. Sometimes a hint, a slight expression, or insignificant problem, have led to inventions the most useful, and to discoveries the most sublime. But we should have advanced far in the road to perfection, if every one had published to mankind his researches, instead of throwing out fortuitous remarks and unintentional allusions. The congregated knowledge of all ages would then have been open to universal investigation. The deficiencies in any particular art or science would then be exhibited, and the student might be employed in new experiments, instead of discovering the old; he might now be gaining farther victories in the regions of literature, instead of pursuing the marches, and reiterating the triumphs, of former conquerors. If it be a subject of regret, that the present age does not possess the complete knowledge of those which are past, it may have the honour of giving an example to future generations, by publishing, for their use, its natural and hereditary information. This would be gratefully received, and transmitted with accumulation to posterity. It would be an illustrious tribute of love for the benefit of mankind; and this honour, with an accompanying obligation, who will be able to resist? No one can doubt of the incalculable value of this generative mass of knowledge. A slight acquaintance with the anecdotes of literature will point out men, whose wonderful powers of mind were held in continual inactivity by the deadening influence of the torpido evidences. The memory of this

age is furnished, and the records of literature are replete with the names of scholars, whose shameful indolence is an indelible mark in the escutcheon of their characters. These men possessed arms of irresistible force, and authority of unlimited jurisdiction. Their acquaintance with the liberal arts might have furnished new gratifications of elegant luxury, and their knowledge in mechanicks might have created unknown accommodations of general life, and made the elements common tributaries to the service of nations: their scientifick researches would perhaps have perfected the knowledge of the solar system, and guided the future observer to sublime discoveries among the suns and comets, which are scattered in infinite space; their physiology would perhaps have mitigated the pain, or removed the cause of the most grievous diseases; it might have added new powers to our bodies, and lengthened the duration of existence: their exertions might have adorned morality with new beauties to captivate, and armed it with irresistible arguments to persuade; while their holy prayers and pious reflections would perhaps have induced the hardened infidel to contemplate the infinite merits of the Saviour, impelled the atheist to purge his soul from crime, and acknowledge in devout adoration the existence of a God.

The principle of gratitude furnishes another obligation to make our knowledge subservient to the good of mankind. This virtue, unincumbered by any nice moral distinctions, is founded humanly on the reception of some good, and the consequent duty of returning the favour. The duty may be evidenced by actual benefit, not to those who imposed the obligation,

for they may not be in existence, but to others in necessitous situations, whom the benefactor would rejoice to have assisted, and who are to be considered proper objects of favour, according to the nature of things and the actual system of relation. If all have received, all should give. If there have been an unequal distribution of good, there are different measures of good to be returned, as testimonials of gratitude. But the sons of learning should not calculate their grateful offerings by precise rules of obligations. As they are dignified with high rank, and endowed with enlarged views, they will give with munificence; they will act with liberal propriety; they will not nicely scan and studiously weigh motives, and principles and conduct; they should be above petty arts and contemptible contrivances to escape the duties of virtue. But whether gratitude impel, or benevolence incite them, they should communicate with the flowing hand of plenty. They have received liberally from their fathers, and they should transmit to their sons whatever they possess of confirmed science and new discovery; for if they retain their literary property, it can profit them little; but if they bestow it, they will discharge their obligation, widen the circle of future felicity, and their names will be mentioned with esteem, and their memory covered with glory. There can be no doubt of their having a great duty to perform. Indeed, if we observe the riches, which learning has received, we might hesitate in saying that the best exertions could cancel the bond. The literary world has obtained an hereditary fortune in the works of men exalted in erudition and venerable in hoiness. This treasure has been

accumulating from age to age, and has decanted from generation to generation, till its present proprietors are transported in examining the number of its parts, and the variety of its materials; or are overpowered in contemplating its mighty magnitude, diversified splendour, and irresistible power.

The all-wise creator of the universe has made nothing in vain. The general contrivance of the world is demonstrated by astronomy to be best adapted for its situation; and the apparent irregularities on its surface, or disorders in its atmosphere, are shown by philosophers to be productive of general happiness. The animals are endued with certain powers; for the execution of certain purposes; they are furnished with means of offence and defence, with the ability of continuing existence, and with various passions and portions of reason and instinct. Thus the system of things is preserved in order and harmony. But this universal agreement has not been demonstrated to exist in the moral world. Without, however, discussing extensively and nicely this interesting proposition, it may be sufficient to observe, that the pos-

session of enlarged faculties, attended by continual indolence, exhibits a character of little use to the world. Where power is granted, there must be an intention, that the power should be exercised. If it be of a beneficial nature, the intention becomes more evident, and an absolute obligation ensues. Let then Genius beware of his conduct, and let Learning resolutely shake off her idleness. By giving authority we are commanded not to hide in a napkin the treasures we have received, and from the same source we know, that an account is to be given of their exertion or inactivity. But, reasoning on moral principles alone, we may discover, that we obstruct the evident designs of our Maker, when we willingly consign our knowledge to shameful inertness: If talents are bestowed by heaven to be employed in doing good, he surely is guilty of contempt, and perhaps of rebellion, who slights the intentions of superior wisdom; who defers his exertions till the hour of exertion be past, and consumes the petty remainder of an unprofitable existence in foolish gaiety or unavailing indifference.

For the Anthology.

MISCELLANY.

THE FRENCH LANGUAGE.

IN a nation of gallants and fine gentlemen, a philosopher would be disappointed not to find a language courteous and graceful, filled with civilities, and easily flexible to compliment. Much of the manners, habits, and sentiments of a nation is indicated by its language; so

that the inhabitants of a country may be said to carry their characters upon their tongues. The genius of the French language I take to be *courtesy*. I doubt whether it can be said to possess the softness and *passion* of the Italian; still more, whether it have the

strength and vigour of the English. Yet it must be allowed, that the Gauls are more graceful and decorous in their speech, than their rival neighbours. If I might have my choice, I would make love in Italian; converse with wits and connoisseurs in French; say my prayers in Spanish; and talk to my dog in some of the dialects of the Baltick; but my funeral eulogy should be written in English by doctor Johnson.

For facetiousness, for playful civility, and easy repartee, the French idiom is unequalled. But the English is better for the purposes of manly commendation, and elegant and elaborate praise. I doubt, whether any language affords a finer specimen of panegyric, than the 'Character of Chat-ham,' or whether any thing can excel, in dignified commendation, some of the dedications written by Johnson. The French dedicators, with a modesty, which approaches to abject humiliation, throw themselves at the feet of their patrons, and only ask the honour of unbuckling their shoes. Johnson retains the dignity of his own character, while he exalts that of him to whom he speaks. The French throw away extravagant compliment, as if it were of no value: Johnson confers praise, not as if praise were worthless, but as if he were generous.

But when praise rises to romance, the superiority of the English idiom is no more. The imagination travels easier in the loose, flowing, rethring robe of a Parisian belle, than in the stays and buckram of queen Elizabeth. Nor is it wonderful, since language is a *metaphrase* of the national character, that the French should excel in the *meretricious*; for much of the science, and all the virtue of

the nation seems to be of that description. The following letter, addressed to a French commander on his gaining a victory, is a translation from that language. Perhaps the critick will see in it little either of the spirit or the idiom of the original.

Elysian Fields, June 20th.

MY LORD,

THE fame of your actions awakes the dead. It arouses those, who have now slumbered for thirty years, and were destined to slumber to eternity. It compels even silence itself to break forth. What a brilliant, renowned, and glorious conquest have you achieved over the enemies of France! You have restored bread to the city, which has been accustomed to furnish it to all others. You have nourished the nurse-mother of Italy. The thunders of that fleet, which barred your passage to the port, could only celebrate your entrance. Its resistance could not detain you longer, than a reception encumbered with some excess of ceremony. Far from retarding the rapidity of your motions, it could not even interrupt the order of your course. You have constrained the South and the North to obey you. Without chastizing the sea, like Xerxes, you have yet rendered it governable. You have even done much more—you have humbled Spain. After this, what may not be said of you? No—Nature in her prime, and at the age when she created Cæsars and Alexanders, never produced any thing so grand, as under the reign of Louis the Fourteenth. In her decline and debility she hath given to France what Rome could not obtain, at the moment of her utmost vigour and maturity. She hath enabled the world to behold in you, my lord, an instance of

that perfect valour; of which we had scarcely formed a notion from romances and heroick poems. Nor should it displease any of your poets, that he cannot say, that you are not known beyond the Cocytus. Your boasting is, my lord, that you have now a common fame on both sides the Styx. It hath caused you forever to be remembered in the very abode of oblivion. It hath found you zealous partisans in the regions of indifference. It has engaged Acheron in the interest of the Seine. I will say more—There is not a ghost among us, so devoted to the principles of the Lyceum, so hardened in the school of Zeno, so fortified against joy and against grief, as not to

hear you praised with rapture, and, clapping his hands, to cry out, ‘a miracle!’

‘As for me, my lord, who know you much better than others, I incessantly dream of you. Your idea occupies me entirely in the long hours of repose. Continually do I exclaim, ‘illustrious personage!’ and if I have any desire to live again, it is less to see the light of heaven, than that I might enjoy the supreme happiness of your conversation; and assure you, with my own lips, how respectfully I am, with all the sentiments of my heart,

‘your lordship’s most humble,
‘and most obedient servant,

‘BALSAC.’

ORIGINAL LETTERS OF MRS. MONTAGU.

*Mrs. Montagu to Mrs. Robinson,
&c. at Naples.*

Hill Street, 26 Feb. 1762.

****. ‘I long most impatiently to hear of your safe recovery, and the health of the little one, who is to repay you for all the trouble his first stage of life will give you. Patience and good humour, which you possess in a high degree, greatly mitigate all sufferings. Those who have most self-love, by a strange blindness to their interest, have usually the least of that noble panacea, patience, which only can heal all the wounds, the rubs, and the scratches one receives in this rough world. I believe you found it an excellent fellow-traveller through Spain: it makes a smooth road, where the pick-axe has never levelled the inequalities, and softens the mat-trass and pillow. I am under some anxiety, lest our rupture

with Spain should occasion you any inconvenience.

‘I am so poor a politician, that if I durst write on the subject, I should be able to give you but a lame account of the situation of affairs here. In the house of commons every boy, who can articulate, is a speaker, to the great dispatch of business, and solidity of councils. They sit late every night, as every young gentleman, who has a handsome person, a fine coat, a well-shaped leg, or a clear voice, is to exhibit these advantages.

‘To this kind of beau-oratory, and tea-table talk, the ladies, as is reasonable, resorted very constantly. At first they attended in such numbers, as to fill the body of the house on great political questions. Having all their lives been aiming at conquests, committing murders, and enslaving mankind, they were for most violent and bloody

measures: desirous of a war with Spain and France, fond of battles on the continent, and delighted with the prospect of victories in the East and West Indies. They wished to see the chariot of their favourite minister drawn, like that of the great Sesostris, by six captive kings!

Much glory might have accrued to Great-Britain from this martial spirit in the ladies: but, whether by private contrivance, or that of a party, who are inclined to pacifick measures, I do not know, a ghost started up in a dirty obscure alley in the city, and diverted the attention of the female politicians from the glory of their country to an inquiry, why Miss Fanny —, who died of the small pox two years ago, and suffered herself to be buried, does now appear in the shape of the sound of a hammer, and rap and scratch at the head of Miss Parsons's bed, the daughter of a parish-clerk?

As I suppose you read the newspapers, you will see mention of the Ghost; but, without you was here upon the spot, you could never conceive, that the most hanging performance of the silliest imposture could take up the attention and conversation of all the fine world. And as the ways of the beau-moudu are always in contradiction to the gospel, they are determined to shew, that, though they do not believe in Moses and the prophets, they would believe if one were to come from the dead, though it was only to play tricks, like a rat behind a waistcoat! You must not indeed regret being absent, while this farce is going on. There will be an Elizabeth Canning, or a Man in a Bottle, or some other folly, for the amusement of this frivolous generation, at all times!

But you have some reason to regret having missed the coronation, perhaps the finest spectacle in the world. As all old customs are kept up in this ceremony, there is a mixture of chivalry and popery, and many circumstances that took their rise in the barbarism of former times, and which appear now very uncouth; but, upon the whole, it is very august and magnificent.

The fine person of our young Sovereign was a great addition to the spectacle; but the Peers and Peeresses made the chief parade on the occasion. Almost all the nobility, whom age and infirmities did not incapacitate, walked in the procession. The jewels, that were worn on the occasion, would have made you imagine, that the diamond mines were in the King of Great-Britain's dominions. On the King's wedding, there appeared the greatest parade of fine cloaths I ever saw.

This winter has been very gay as to amusements. Never did we see less light from the sun, or a greater blaze of wax-candles! The presence of the Duke of Mecklenburgh, the Queen's youngest brother, has given occasion to many balls and assemblies. The Queen has not an evening drawing-room: they have sometimes balls at St. James's; but in general their majesties spend their time in private, or at Leicester-house, where the Princess Dowager hardly keeps up the air of a court. The D. of Y— makes himself amends for want of princely pastimes by very familiarly frequenting all the public diversions; and has shared in the amusements of the ghost at Cock Lane. As all are equal in the grate, a ghost may be company for the Grand Seigneur, without disparagement to human gran-

deur ! Our young Queen has a polite address ; and even her civilities in the circle seem to flow from good humour. She is cheerful, easy, and artless in her manners, which greatly charms the king, who, by his situation, is surrounded by solemnity, ceremony, &c.

‘ I had the pleasure of hearing from Mr. Pitt, that you and my brother were in good health. You had a great loss in Mr. Pitt’s leaving Naples : he shines first amongst his young countrymen, even here. He is to dine here to-day with Mrs. Lyttleton and the Bishop of Carlisle, a new bishop, but who has long had every qualification to grace the Reverend Bench !

‘ You have lately returned us from Italy a very extraordinary personage, Lady Mary Wortley. When Nature is at the trouble of making a very singular person, Time does right in respecting it. Medals are preserved, when common coin is worn out ; and as great geniuses are rather matters of curiosity than use, this lady seems to be reserved for a wonder to more than one generation. She does not look older, than when she went abroad ; has more than the vivacity of fifteen ; and a memory, which perhaps is unique. Several people visited her out of curiosity, which she did not like. I visit her, because her husband and mine were cousin-germans ; † and though she has not any foolish par-

tiality for her husband, and his relations, I was very graciously received, and, you may imagine, entertained, by one, who neither thinks, speaks, acts, or dresses, like any body else. Her domestic is made up of all nations ; and when you get into her drawing-room, you imagine you are in the first story of the tower of Babel. An Hungarian servant takes your name at the door ; he gives it to an Italian, who delivers it to a Frenchman, the Frenchman to a Swiss, and the Swiss to a Polandder ; so that by the time you get to her ladyship’s presence, you have changed your name five times without the expense of an Act of Parliament.*

* In another letter dated 8th Oct. following, Mrs. Montagu writes thus : ‘ Lady Mary W. Montagu returned to England, as it were, to finish where she began. I wish she had given us an account of the events, that filled the space between. She had a terrible distemper, the most virulent cancer ever heard of, which soon carried her off. I met her at my Lady Bute’s in June, and she then looked well ; in three weeks after, at my return to London, I heard she was given over. The hemlock kept her drowsy and free from pain ; and the physicians thought, if it had been given early, might possibly have saved her.

‘ She left her son one guinea. He is too much of a sage to be concerned about money, I presume. When I first knew him, a rake and a beau, I did not imagine he would addict himself at one time to Rabbinical learning ; and then travel all over the east, the great itinerant savant of the world. One has read, that the great believers in the transmigration of souls suppose a man, who has been rapacious and cunning, does penance in the shape of a fox ; another, cruel and bloody, enters the body of a wolf. But I believe my poor cousin in his pre-existent state, having broken all moral laws, has been sentenced to suffer in all the various characters of human life. He has run through them all, unsuccessfully enough. His disputes

† Lady Mary’s husband, Wortley Montagu, was son of Sidney Montagu, 2d son of the first earl of Sandwich. He died 22 Jan. 1761, aged 80. Mrs. Montagu’s husband, Edward Montagu, was son of Charles Montagu, 5th son of the first earl of Sandwich. He was of Sandford, in Berks, and Denton in Northumberland, and died 1776.

‘My father, brother Morris, and brother Charles, are in town. My brother Robinson has been in Kent most part of the winter. I made my sister a visit at Bath-Easton, just before the meeting of the Parliament in November. I had the happiness of finding her in better health than usual. Lady Bab Montagu is much recovered of late. I am surprised she did not try, what a change of climate would do in her favour.

‘I own I have such a spirit of rambling, I want nothing but liberty to indulge it, to carry me as far as Rome. I believe, I should make it the limit of my curiosity. Its ancient greatness, and its present splendour, make it the object most worth one’s attention. I hope his Holiness would pardon a heretick for reverencing the curule, more than the papal chair. One must however own, that if imperial Rome was unrivalled in greatness, papal Rome has been unparalleled in policy. I leave to heroes and statesmen to dispute, whether force or cunning is the most honourable means to establish power. One calls violence valour, the other civilly terms fraud wisdom: plain sense and plain honesty cannot reverence either.

‘I am very sorry that you have lost Sir Francis Eyles: an agreeable friend is greatly missed in all situations, but must be particularly so in a foreign country. I envy you the opportunities you have of getting a familiar acquaintance with the Italian lan-

with Mr. Needham has been communicated to me by a gentleman of the Museum; and I think he will gain no laurels there. But he speaks as decisively, as if he had been bred in Pharaoh’s court in all the learning of the Egyptians. He has certainly very uncommon parts; but too much of the rapidity of his mother’s genius.

guage. I should be much obliged to you, if you could get me all the works of Paulus Jovius in Latin; Thucydides’s History, translated into Italian by Francesco di Seldo Strozzi, a quarto edition, 1568; History of Naples by Angelo di Costanza, a folio, 1562; the best translation of Demosthenes; the poetical works of Vittoria Colonna; of Carlo Maria’s daughter; and La Conquista di Granada; all Cardinal Bembo’s works; the History of the Incas, by Garcillessa de la Vega, in Spanish. If you could any where pick up the old French romance of Perce-forest, I should be glad of it; and also L’Histoire du Port Royal. I should be glad of the life of Vittoria Colonna; but do not know in what language it is written.

‘The town is now in a great uproar from an outrageous piece of gallantry; as it is called, of the young Earl of **, who has carried off Miss ***, as it is said, to Holland. He wrote a letter to his wife, one of the best and most beautiful women in the world, to tell her he had quitted her forever; that she was too good and too tender for him; and he had so violent a passion for Missy, he could not help doing as he did. It will not be long, before

the maid
Will weep the fury of her love betray’d.

His affections are as uncertain, as they are unlawful and ungenerous. Nothing more than a total want of honour, and honesty, is necessary to make a man follow the dictates of a loose, unbridled passion. But what could prevail on the unhappy girl to quit her parents, country, reputation, and all her future hopes in life, one cannot imagine! One should hardly imagine, too, that a girl, who has flirted for some years with the pretty men in town;

Has been finest at every fine shew,
And frolick'd it all the long day,

should be taken with the simple
passion of some village nymph,
single out her shepherd, and live
under a mountain by the purling
of a rill, contentedly,

'The world forgetting, by the world
forgot!'

It seems Miss **** was a
great lover of French novels; and
much enamoured of Mr. Rous-
seau's Julie. How much have
these writers to answer for, who
make vice into a regular system,
gild it with specious colours, and
deceive the mind into guilt, it
would have started at, without the
aid of art and cheat of sentiment!
I have wrote the names of the de-
linquents very plain, as God forbid
their crime should be imputed to
any innocent person. There is
danger of that, if one does not ex-
plain oneself.

I believe one may affirm,
though it is not declared in form,
that our young Queen is in a way
to promise us an heir to Great-
Britain in a few months. Lady
Sarah Lennox is very soon to be
married to Sir William Bunbury's
son; and Lady Raymond, it is
said, to Lord Robert Bertie. Mr.
Beauclerk was to have been mar-

ried to Miss Draycott; but, by a
certain coldness in his manner,
she fancied her lead-mines were
rather the objects of his love, than
herself; and so, after the licence
was taken out, she gave him his
congé. Rosamond's pond was
never thought of by the forsaken
swain. His prudent parents thought
of the transmutation of metals, and
to how much gold the lead might
have been changed, and rather re-
gret the loss.

I am very glad you have the
good fortune to have Sir Richard
Lyttelton and the Duchess of Bridg-
water at Naples. I know not any
house, where the sweet civilities of
life are so well dispensed, as at
theirs. Sir Richard adds, to ele-
gance of manners, a most agree-
able vivacity and wit in conversa-
tion. He was made for society,
such as society should be: I shall
be glad, when you write, to hear of
the duchess of Bridgewater's health,
and the recovery of Sir Richard's
legs; though he sits smiling in
his great chair with constant good
humour, it is pity he should be
confined to it! I wish you would
present my compliments to him
and my lady duchess.

In the way of publick news, I
should tell you, Lord Halifax is
adored in Ireland.

For the Anthology.

ASTRONOMY.

The following article was drawn up at our request by Mr. BOWDITCH of
Salem, and with his permission is now published.

THE comet, which is now visi-
ble, was first observed near the
foot of the constellation *Virgo*, and
has since passed in succession
through the constellations *Mome*
Manalus, *Serpens*, *Hercules*, and

Lynx; and on the 19th of Decem-
ber was about one degree distant
from the star α *Cygni*; the appar-
ent motion was nearly in a great
circle at the rate of about one de-
gree per day. I have made ob-

servations, since the 7th of October, by measuring distances from the comet to several of the fixed stars by a circle of reflection; and to render the observations as correct as was practicable, ten or twelve distances from each star were generally measured. The necessary calculations for ascertaining the exact elements of the orbit have not yet been completed; but the following approximate values have been obtained, by which the place of the comet may be calculated within 10' or 12', and the observer thus enabled to discover the comet, when it shall become so faint as to be scarcely visible.

Time of passing the perihelion, Sept. 18th, at midnight, mean time at Salem, corresponding to Sept. 18th, 16h. 43m, 28s. mean time at Greenwich.

Perihelion distance 0,6485. the mean distance of the earth from the sun being 1.

Place of the perihelion, counted on the orbit of the comet 9 0 53 15

Place of the perihelion, reduced to the ecliptic 8 28 32 19

Place of the ascending node 8 26 36 29

Inclination of the orbit to the ecliptic 2 39 48 31

Motion direct, or according to the order of the signs.

The geocentrick latitudes and longitudes of the comet, calculated

for the month of October, by these elements, do not differ more than two or three minutes from observations; greater differences were found in the observations made in November, but the greatest error did not exceed nineteen minutes.

The distance of the comet from the sun, at the time of passing the perihelion, was above sixty millions of miles. The distance of the comet from the earth, on the 25th of September, was about one hundred millions of miles; and on the 17th of the present month was above one hundred and sixty millions of miles.

The elements of this comet differ so greatly from those of all the comets inserted by De La Lande in his Astronomy, that it must be one, whose elements were unknown to that excellent astronomer.

The above results will be found to differ in a small degree from those given in the *Salern Gazette* of November 10th, and Register of November 12th. Since these dates I have been enabled, by astronomical operations, to obtain the elements of the orbit with more exactness.

The comet may have been observed in the southern hemisphere, before passing the perihelion; but it was not probably then seen in the northern, on account of its great southern declination.

Salern, December 19, 1807.

For the Anthology.

SILVA, No. 34.

Lat. milli non estate novum, non frigore, dest.

Vix. 2 Ec. 22.

ALLITERATION.

THIS humble figure of rhetoric, if it may be called a rhetorical figure, intended merely to play upon the ear, is of early use among

the English poets. In Spenser it is harsh and deformed; the lines in which it abounds are destitute of beauty and gracefulness, and consist of an unharmonious com-

ination of words, that betrays the affectation with which they were put together.

In reading his translation of the *Culex* of Virgil, my attention was arrested by the frequent and awkward introduction of this figure. In the description of the serpent we meet with these lines :

And his bright eyes, glancing fall
dreadfully,
Did seem to flame out fates of fashing
fire.

The goat, in his complaint to the shepherd from his infernal prison, details a part of its horrors, in the following *hideous heap of aspirated alliteration* :

Ten thousand snakes, cralling about his
(Cerberus) head,
Do hang in heaps that horribly affray.

And afterward :

..... I thee restored to life again,
Even from the door of death and deadly
dream.

In the writings of Pope, the figure of alliteration, so much abused by common scribblers of verses, is refined into a positive beauty, and it gives a degree of vivacity, and strength, and even elegance to the versification, which we sometimes perceive in effect, without detecting the real skill and dexterity of the poet in their production.

In his very striking and undisguised alliterations, we generally find, that, in order to preserve the harmony of his verse, he has resorted to the liquid consonants, Thus in his 'Essay on Man' :

Mark how it mounts to man's imperial
race.

Again :

The spider's touch, how exquisitely
fine !

Feels, *so each thread, and linea obliqua*
the line.

And again in his 'Moral Essays' :

These English beauty yet awhile may
stand,

And honour linger ere it leaves the land.

He sometimes very happily unites this figure with an antithesis in the thought, or construction of the line ; as in the following examples, where, though the alliteration is, in some instances, remote, yet it is still preserved :

When earthquakes swallow, or when
tempests sweep.

In the adjective :

That secret's rare, between the extremes to move
Of mad good nature, or of mean self-love.

In the noun and adjective :

Whom with a wig so wild, and *meins* as
massed.

In the noun and verb :

And judges job, and bishops bite the town,
And mighty dukes pack cards for half
a crown.

Sometimes the words which mark the antithesis, and contain the alliteration, are inverted with respect to each other, and appear at the extremities of the line ; as in the second verse of the following passage :

Though the same sun, with all-diffusive
rays,
Shine in the rose, and in the diamond
blaze,
We prize the stronger effort of his
power,
And justly set the gem above the flower.

If I have been fortunate in these examples, it must appear that alliteration may become a beauty in the hands of a skillful artist in the service of the Muses. But the beauty does not consist in a continued repetition of the same initial letter, multiplied by great effort, and in violation of nature. A

degree of deception in its mechanism is sometimes pardonable; by which it may elude the vigilance of the eye, and still preserve its power to charm the ear.

Some have exhibited their mighty ingenuity in forming whole lines of uninterrupted alliteration.

How admirable is the command of language, and how exquisite the combination of syllables and words in such lines as these:

All round the rugged rocks the ragged rascals ran.

ANON.

Begot by butchers, but by bishops bred,
How high his honour holds his haughty head.

Prose has also been enriched with this playful figure. One writer has told us of men, whose faculties are proportioned to the *bawl of Bellas*, and *barbarity of Beckford's*; and another of a *casual concurrence of calamitous circumstances*; and how far the study of, synonymes, for the selection of corresponding initials, may still improve this happy art, is beyond the critick's ken to imagine.

GREEK LITERATURE.

Every man, says Dr. Johnson, now-a-days gets as much Greek as he can. In this country, I fear, we are less skilled in ancient lore, than before the revolution. The death of George II. was mourned, and George III. congratulated on his accession, in Greek odes, of which, it is feared, we now hardly know the construction. The war not only interrupted the studies of the learned, but in some degree unfitted the nation for such pursuits. *Inter arma silent leges, in æta arma vixit academiæ.* We have indeed reasons for hoping that the incapacity is only temporary, yet sad would be the task to expose to foreigners the whole

state of literature among us, and our colleges, so be sure, says, every day, but the number of them is prejudicial to real learning, for their endowments are too niggardly to support instructors: academick honours are too easily acquired, and our youth learn to despise them; and of all our commodities, scholarship, though the most rare, bears the lowest price in the market.

In so little repute was the study of Greek literature not long since held, that the boys at one of our universities, by glorying in their ignorance of it, have disgraced the proud names of their mothers, from whom they expected a rank and a title in the world of letters; and at another have erased, so far as their power could go, every vestige of that unsightly alphabet.

But within a few years we have exhibited some signs of awaking from our long trance. The language of Rome is now considered with respect, if not studied, with favour; and the nation, to whom Rome owed her letters and her arts, will, we hope, ere long vindicate her intellectual supremacy in our country. Let us remember, that, as the use of gold and silver coin is the surest criterion of civilization, Greek literature supplies the best proof of a people's advancement in learning.

VOLTAIRE'S LIBRARY.

It is said, that Voltaire's library was a poor one, though it consisted of more than six thousand volumes. In the department of history especially it was very scantily furnished, and of romances he had not more than thirty volumes. But though his books were in fact of little value, they were made extremely precious by the manuscript notes, with which he had filled them. Whenever he was

reading a BOOK, if a thought struck him, he would take the first bit of paper that he could find, write his remark, and paste the paper on the margin of the page, which he was reading, and over against the passage, which suggested the remark, or to which it belonged. The French will never cease to regret, that this curious monument of Voltaire's genius is not in their possession. It ought, they say, to make a part of the grande-bibliothèque impériale, at Paris; but alas! it is in that of Petersburg. The empress Catharine persuaded Madame Denis, Voltaire's heiress, to let her have it for 150,000 livres. This was the price which the sovereign herself fixed. She added a rich present of furs of the greatest beauty; and a very gracious letter with this superscription, 'Pour Madame Denis, niece d'un grand homme que j'aime beaucoup.' The empress also required that all the original letters of Voltaire, whether fit to be printed or not, should accompany this library. Madame Denis consented, only she had permission to take copies of any letters she wished to preserve. Catharine also obtained exact plans and various views of the chateau at Ferney; for she proposed to make one exactly like it in her park of Czarskozele, and to erect there a monument to the memory of Voltaire. It was intended to have a museum, where the books should be placed in precisely the same order in which they were arranged at Ferney, with a statue of Voltaire in the centre. I know not whether these plans have ever been executed.

Catharine bought also the libraries of D'Alembert and Diderot. Diderot told his daughter that he might give his only daughter a fortune; and it is a curious fact, that it was

made a condition of the sale, that he should not only be allowed to keep the books as long as he lived, but that he should receive a salary as librarian!

I will only add that there is an interesting specimen of Voltaire's manuscript notes on Virgil, in the *Anthology* for September, 1805.

ALEXANDER.

The following highly satirical lines are, from Despreaux's satires, and with very little alteration might be applied to the present ravager of Europe.

Pray what was Alexander in your
sense,
A fool, belike. Yes, faith, sir, much
the same;
A crackbrained huff, that set the world
on flame;
A lunatick broke loose, who in his fit-
fell foul on all, invaded all he met;
Who, lord of the whole globe, yet not
content,
Lack'd elbow room, and seem'd too
closely pent.
What madness was't, thus born to a
fair throne,
Where he might rule with justice and
renown;
Like a wild robber, he would choose to
roam;
A piteous wretch, with neither house
nor home;
And hurling war and slaughter up and
down,
Thro' the wide world makes his vast
folly known.
Happy, for ten good reasons had it been,
If Macedon had had a bedlam then;
That there with keepers under close
restraint
He might have been from frantick mis-
chief pent.

NEW-ENGLAND.

It is said of us in New-England, that vanity is our national foible. There may be some truth in the remark, though we cannot allow that we have this weakness in a greater degree than some of our sister states. Charleston, Phila-

delphines and New York, are not
 -peripatetics; distinguished by their
 local prejudices than Boston. The
 success of our revolutionary war,
 and the unexampled prosperity
 which has followed, may have giv-
 en to the American nation at large
 an over-weening conceit of its
 power and resources. But indi-
 vidualy we have not more vanity
 than others. Where, for instance,
 can you find a vainger or stiffer fel-
 low than a young *John Bull*, just
 imported from a manufactory at
 Birmingham? *John*, who never in
 his own country was admitted into
 the company of gentlemen, imme-
 diately gives himself airs, and finds
 fault with *the* here and *that* there.
 He swears, to prove his courage,
 and talks nonsense to show his wit.
 He endeavours to establish his own
 superiority by the universal cen-
 sure of all he hears and sees. In
John's opinion, we are wholly ig-
 norant of every art of life; we can
 neither dress, nor dance, nor walk,
 nor give an entertainment in a
 genteel style. *John* abuses our
 cookery, whilst he devours all be-
 fore him; and launches out in the
 praise of Port wine, while he is

swallowing his bottle of Ma-
 deira.

For the English nation, we en-
 tertain the highest respect, and are
 far from wishing that our readers
 should judge of it from the swag-
 gering puppies we sometimes meet
 with, who, springing from low rank,
 assume the dress without the man-
 ners of gentlemen. The well-bred
 Englishman ranks high in the
 scale of being. He is modest, sen-
 sible; generous, and brave; above
 vulgar prejudices, and in every res-
 pect a man of truly estimable char-
 acter. We should be cautious
 therefore how we judge of a na-
 tion from the clerks of a merchant,
 or the apprentices of a manufac-
 turer.

Let foreigners, in a similar man-
 ner, avoid deciding on the Ameri-
 can character by our adventuress,
 who visit all parts of the world,
 many of whom are as contempti-
 ble for their vulgarity, as infamous
 for their knavery. We have as
 much solid worth at home, per-
 haps as any people in the world,
 a considerable portion of which is
 never exported in foreign bot-
 toms.

For the Anthology

MINERALOGY.

(Mr. S. Gopay has recently commenced a course of Mineralogical Lectures in
 this town. This gentleman's attainments in Mineralogy and Chemistry, were
 repeatedly evidenced in France, his native country, where those sciences are
 assiduously cultivated. We have understood that his removal is with a view
 to permanent settlement in some part of the United States. We wish him all
 prospered, encouragement, and success, and indulge a hope that his talents and
 acquisitions will render him eminently useful to his adopted country. A
 return of real science, with a disposition to diffuse it, and to apply his intelli-
 gent stores to useful purposes, must be considered as a valuable ac-

quirement, and we are glad to see that a gentleman of such talents and
 industry has taken up his abode in our town. We are confident that his
 presence will be a great benefit to our country, and that his labors will
 be highly rewarded. We are glad to see that a gentleman of such talents and
 industry has taken up his abode in our town. We are confident that his
 presence will be a great benefit to our country, and that his labors will
 be highly rewarded.

We have been favoured with a copy of Mr. Gadow's interesting observations, forming a part of his first Lecture, which we have now the pleasure of presenting to the readers of the Anthology.]

GENTLEMEN,

THE study of natural history is intended to direct us to the knowledge of the objects which compose our globe, or which belong to its surface. Naturalists divide these objects into two classes, *organized and inorganized beings*. Mineralogy, in particular, is limited to a knowledge of those which compose *inanimate nature*.

When we cast our eyes upon the part of the globe not covered by waters, the bodies scattered on the earth present themselves to us confusedly. Stones and metals appear dispersed without order in its bosom, or on its surface. Such is the point of view under which they are beheld by the vulgar; but this confusion is only in appearance, and, in places favourable to mineralogical observations, the man who knows how to consider analytically these different bodies, soon perceives an order which renders their study interesting to him.

Two ways of studying the objects of the mineral kingdom are presented to us: either we consider them in their simple state, that is to say, constituted in distinct species, with characters which are peculiar to them, or we consider them in a state of aggregation. The first consideration belongs to the mineralogical species, properly speaking; the second to the aggregate minerals constituting the vast masses of the globe, which are commonly called *rocks*. The study of rocks is important in the application of mineralogical knowledge, and particularly in the geological description of mountains. Werner has given to these two divisions the names of *oryctog-*

nomia and *geognosia*, which we shall adopt.

We shall divide our studies therefore into two sections; in the first we shall speak of the characters of minerals, of their chemical composition, and of their properties and uses; in the second, we shall fix our attention on the rocks, and on the method of studying minerals in nature.

In order to attain these several kinds of knowledge, and aid our minds in the pursuit, various systems of classification have been imagined. These systems are not always owned by nature, but such as they are, we must consider them as valuable for us, since they afford the means to run over the vast chain of bodies which compose the mineral kingdom. The introduction of these methods, almost unknown to the ancients, has had a powerful influence in advancing the progress of natural history among the moderns.

It is no doubt useless to enlarge upon the importance of the science to which we are now about to give our attention. The knowledge of metals, the art of taking them out of the earth, and preparing them for our purposes; the making of lime, of alum, of copperas, and of vitriol of copper; the art of knowing the earths proper for the fabrication of pottery ware, china, &c. are dependencies of mineralogy. Agriculture itself has connection with mineralogical observations; and to commerce perhaps more than to any other profession, a general knowledge of natural objects is interesting and important. The mineralogist sees with pleasure, that almost every

object which composes his collection, has some use in society, and who can forget the influence of metals in particular among civilized people. Nearly thirty thousand plants are known; the number of species included in zoology is incomparably more extensive; among those beings, all different in their forms, whose multiplicity almost overpowers our imagination, we reckon only a small number, the uses of which are ascertained. It is not the same with minerals; hardly can we mention any stones altogether indifferently to man living in society; even those which appear to the eyes of philosophers & naturalists, as of little importance in nature, as to their real utility, by a singular and odd caprice have obtained a high degree of estimation, and are of great value in commerce.

America presents a virgin soil

in reference to this branch of natural history. There is abundant evidence, that the mineral productions of this part of the world are as interesting as those of any other country; and the most proper period for researches of this description, is undoubtedly that in which the people of the United States begin to perceive the necessity of manufactures.

This study equally claims the attention of the man who is in pursuit of property, as of him who is at leisure to cultivate his understanding. In all times, and among every people, the tribute of esteem and consideration has been granted to those who have benefited society and the sciences by useful discoveries. Ambition, thus directed, is altogether laudable, for its object is to contribute to the conveniencies of life, and to improve the human mind.

FRANKLIN'S DONATION.

To the Editors of the Monthly Anthology.

GENTLEMEN,

I OBSERVED in the Monthly Magazine for July last, published in London, a query relative to two legacies of one thousand pounds sterling each, left by Dr. Franklin, to the town of Boston, and to the corporation of the city of Philadelphia, for the benefit of

* From the Monthly Magazine, published in London, for July, 1807—p. 558.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,—Having lately met with Dr. Franklin's Will, to which his will is annexed, my curiosity has been much excited relative to 2000*l.* bequeathed in a codicil to the said will, 1000*l.* to the citizens of Boston, and 1000*l.* to the corporation of the city of Philadelphia, to be let out at interest, at five per cent,

such young artificers under the age of twenty-five, as had served an apprenticeship in those towns, and were married. So far as the inquiry respects this town, I am able to state, that the sum was paid, and that the first loan, made by the trustees, was, on the 3d of May, 1791. Since that time there have been one hundred and thirty

in different sums, to such young artificers, under the age of twenty-five, who had served an apprenticeship in the said towns, and were married. If any person can gratify my desire to know, whether the said legacies are appropriated agreeable to the intention, through your justly admitted miscellaneous collection, he will much oblige your constant reader,

Dublin, February 22, 1807.

By the same, secured according to the provisions contained in the will of these sixty-nine, have been wholly paid, and on the rest various portions of the principal and interest are due, and constantly growing due. The fund amounts at this time to eight thousand three hundred eighty-six dollars, and has been found in its operation highly useful to many of the citizens of this town.

By inserting this information in your miscellany, you will gratify the curiosity of the inquirer relative to a bequest, which reflects great honour on the memory of Dr. Franklin, and oblige

Yours, &c.

P. THACHER,

Treasurer of the Fund.

Boston, Dec. 22, 1807.

POETRY.

ORIGINAL.

AN ODE TO WINTER.

WINTER, ruler of the year,
Awhile in thy storm,
Blow thy blast; both chill and clear;
Shew thy wildest form!

Muses, touch the faithful lyre,
Wake the poet's native fire!

'Yonder, Winter's self appears,
Crown'd with snows of other years;
High on an alp of ice reclin'd,
He sullen calls the obedient wind,
Then throws his native garment
And bids his gloomy harp to sound:

'Now mark, the tender leaves are
He strikes a wilder note, they die;
The slender sapling trembling betwixt,
And hear, the weeping willows sigh.

'Now all the woodland choir is still,
Nor wakes its melting music more;
The noisy clack within the mill
In silence listens to his lore.

'And lo! advance the sun is turn'd,
The river hearkens to his song;
'Tis charm'd, and ceases more to flow,
Nor bears its pebbly note along.

'And bends the oak, whose head
Is try'd

'O Winter! cease thy song,
Lest nature's self should die;
Lest art thy task feel,
And softest minstrelsy.

'Next, in his cold and dreary dress,
He goes the suffering circle round,
Visits the children of distress,
And lurks where hunger's found.

'Ah! turn thee from that door
Here pour thy pelting storm,
Give wealth thy hail, thy snow,
But spare the poor's form.

'No! Then, gentle Pity, come!
Winter's eldest, fondest child,
Give him all his kindred storm,
Be thou ever soft and mild.

'Beneath thy heavenly smile
The blast a zephyr grows;
'Tis thine to calm the storm,
'Tis thine to melt the snows.

'Now smiles the child of woe,
The orphan wipes the tear;
His cup with comfort flows,
Even sadness tastes the cheer.

'Calm thoughtfulness, thy child,
Now holds her evening reign,
By turns with fancy wild,
Then turn'st to woe's strain.

But mark, the Muses have the lyre, Yet friendship claims thee as her
 Nor longer waks the poet's fire
 To glow in winter's praise ;
 Anticipation takes the song,
 And bears young Spring in smiles
 For poets' softer lays.

And softer sympathy.
 If such delights are thine,
 Though rugged be thy form,
 Still will I hail thee mine,
 And smile amid thy storm.

But, winter ! social life is thine,
 'Tis here we welcome thee ;

December 26, 1807.

SELECTED.

THE WITHERED OAK.

'T WAS Autumn—the sun now descending the sky,
 In a robe of bright crimson and gold was array'd ;
 While the pale sickly moon, scarcely open'd her eye,
 Just peep'd through the forest, and silver'd the glade.

The voice of the evening was heard in the trees—
 Each chirper so merry was acceiling his nest ;
 The anthems of insects were mix'd with the breeze,
 And nature look'd pleas'd—all her children were blest.

Then the trees appear'd dress'd in their holiday cloaths,
 And they wav'd their green arms, and they seem'd to rejoice,
 While methought as I list'ned, at times there arose
 From each oak's ivied branches a Deity's voice.

But ah ! there was one that did not appear gay,
 Nor wave his long branches—now verdant no more !
 The bird as he view'd him soars silent away,
 His genius is dead, and his honours are o'er.

Once green like the rest, strong and lovely he grew,
 The warbler once dwelt in each well cover'd bough,
 The breezes saluted his leaves as they flew ;
 Yes, he has been—but now !—alas ! what is he now ?

The rays of the morning still shine on the tree,
 And evening still waters the trunk with her tears ;
 The wild-flow'r and wheat-sheaf around it are seen,
 But a wintery ruin this ever appears.

Oh ! say, is it age that has alter'd thy form,
 (For care and affliction thou never hast known)
 Or hast thou been struck by the pitiless storm,
 That thou thus seem'st to pine and to wither alone ?

Thou art silent—the silence my fancy improve ;
 Come pause here awhile—it is what thou may'st be !
 Ah ! oft in the heyday of pleasure and love
 Old friend, I shall sigh as I think upon thee.

Aug. 23, 1806.

THE BOSTON REVIEW,

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DECEMBER, 1807.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotari, que commutanda, que eximenda, arbitrarer. Nam ego dicam eorum asuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprobentur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ARTICLE VI.

The Life of George Washington, commander in chief of the armies of the United States of America throughout the war, which established their independence, and first president of the United States. By David Ramsay, M.D. author of the History of the American Revolution. 8vo. pp. 376. New-York, printed by Hopkins & Seymour, for E. S. Thomas, Baltimore. 1807.

An Essay on the Life of George Washington, commander in chief of the American army through the revolutionary war, and the first president of the United States. By Aaron Bancroft, A. A. S. pastor of a Congregational church in Worcester. 8vo. pp. 552. Worcester, printed by Thomas & Sturtevant, 1807.

THE biography of the best great man, recorded in the annals of history, will be perused through successive ages with increasing delight. Early in the present year the long-desired life of Washington by Marshall was completed and given to the public. This work was so eagerly expected by the world, that our praise or censure could neither retard nor increase its circulation: and we

have thought proper, to lay by the volumes, as they have appeared, in order to examine them together, and afford a continuous representation of the merits of the whole.

The volumes now before us have within a few months issued from our press, the authors having waited to derive all possible advantage from the work of Marshall for the perfection of their abridgements. Of the utility of their plan no doubt can arise, for thousands in our country cannot purchase the costly volumes of the great biographer, to whom much information may be afforded by Ramsay and by Bancroft.

The first observation in comparing these two volumes, that will strike every one who reads them, is, that they might well exchange titles. The work, modestly called 'An Essay on the life of George Washington,' exhibits many proofs of profound research among the scattered fragments of our history, and much curious inquiry after anecdotes relating to its subject. The Life of George Washington, by the historian of the American war, contains nothing new to one, who has read Marshall with careless rapidity, and who faintly remembers the impression made on him in his pas-

page through that ample repository. Dr. Ramsay is diffuse and oratorical in his manner, as if he were contending for the palm of eloquence in a eulogy. The style of Mr. Bancroft is simple without meanness: it seldom glows, and is never frigid: it is not rapid, nor does it often stagnate.

He has not conceived that he was writing forms of erudition; but for the unlettered portion of the community; and he has for their benefit more particularly studied simplicity of style. Should he be so happy as to obtain their approbation, he will receive an ample reward of his labour. *Preface.*

Such is the safe manner of him, who, too diffident to aspire to the rank of a philosophical historian, contents himself with the faithful performance of the useful duties of an annalist. If therefore to an inhabitant of Europe, who shall inquire for the character of Washington with little curiosity to learn the private biography of the man, or the peculiar circumstances and events of little splendour, that attended the warfare, the volume of Ramsay be recommended, as a well written epitome; by every American, who searches with eager veneration for all the less observable qualities of the father of his country, to whom no situation, in which he stood, is uninteresting, no detail of facts, in which he was concerned, trivial, superiority will be allowed without hesitation to the abridgment of Mr. Bancroft.

An engraved head of Washington is prefixed to each of these volumes; in Ramsay's by Lezey, in Bancroft's by Edwin. Neither is equal to the fine likeness by Edwin in Marshall's Washington; but that in Bancroft's, though perhaps more coarsely executed than the work of Lezey, carries a strong

resemblance, which commendation we cannot afford to the other.

Dr. Ramsay has dedicated his book to the youth of the United States, in a sentence neat enough; but we see little use in this way of filling a page.

The two authors have divided their works into chapters, and, as if by preconcert, each has thirteen, of which the first in Ramsay's narrates the history of Washington in twenty pages to the commencement of our revolution: Mr. Bancroft has given the biography only till the year 1759 in thirty-seven pages. This may shew the greater satisfaction to be derived from the minuteness of Mr. Bancroft.

In the history of Chief Justice Marshall we are informed who was the father of Washington, as well as that he was his third son; who was his great-grandfather, and the time of his emigration from England; but we remain ignorant of the name of our hero's grandfather; and the defect is not supplied in the volumes before us.

As these works will soon be among the most usual books in the hands of our children, who acquire their style of expression from the most common authors, it is of importance to notice a few verbal errors, that might otherwise pass us uncensured. On the page of Dr. Ramsay few readers would expect to find such sentences as these: 'On the next day a dreadful scene took place.' 'A revolutionary war of eight years duration, which issued in their establishment, as thirteen United States.' 'Their farmlands is growing obsolete.' On page 304 he informs us, that the British troops fell down to the Castle with the intention of proceeding up the river to attack

Dorchester heights. Query, was the historian ever in Boston? The phrase 'brought round a revolution' is very offensive to our ears. *Brought about* would be bad enough, but this seems to be *brought round about*. '*Prodigious convey*' and '*ineffable delight*' are modes of expression inconsistent with the modesty of history; and '*majestick silence*' suits only the romântick. Judgment was '*his forte*' would be a mean expression to apply to any body, but it is highly improper to speak so vulgarly of the subject of our author's history. 'After a tedious hearing before a court, Lee was found guilty.' We hope no contempt is meant in these words, though it might be thought so. The word '*thereof*' occurs frequently in Dr. Ramsay's volume, and in 'Wood's Conveyancing.' The son of general St. Clair will inform the Doctor, that his father's name was not *Sênclair*, and any school-boy in the country might have corrected the word.

If in so large a work by an American author more faults of grammar and expression are not discovered, than we have now marked, he deserves no small praise; and Dr. Ramsay may remember, that many writers in our country are not worth censuring. He has done much heretofore; and his '*Life of Washington*' has given him another claim to the gratitude of his country: His style is usually pure; and often elegant. His remarks are judicious and sometimes profound. From a quotation our readers may easily decide for themselves.

Perhaps no man ever lived who was so often called upon to form a judgment in cases of real difficulty, and who so often formed a right one. Engaged in the busy scenes of life, he knew human nature, and the most

proper methods of accomplishing proposed objects. Of a thousand propositions he knew to distinguish the best, and to select among a thousand the individual most fitted for his purpose. P. 329.

The whole character indeed of Washington is well drawn; and its conclusion impressive:

'Citizens of the United States! While with grateful hearts you recollect the virtues of your Washington, carry your thoughts one step farther. On a review of his life, and of all the circumstances of the times in which he lived, you must be convinced, that a kind Providence in its beneficence raised him, and endowed him with extraordinary virtues, to be to you an instrument of great good. None but such a man could have carried you successfully through the revolutionary times which tried men's souls, and ended in the establishment of your independence. None but such a man could have braced up your government after it had become so contemptible, from the imbecility of the federal system. None but such a man could have saved your country from being plunged into war, either with the greatest naval power in Europe, or with that which is most formidable by land, in consequence of your animosity against the one, and your partiality in favour of the other.' P. 337.

The clergy of this country are our best scholars, but they are sometimes careless writers. Of this we have been once or twice satisfied in Mr. Bancroft's book. A pilot is one, who steers a vessel, as a guide directs us on land. For the use of that word, however, Washington's journal may be quoted, but its authority cannot affix a new meaning. '*Infilade*' is not an English word, but *enfilade* is naturalized from the French.—Of other words we cannot be so tender; and if '*necessitated*' is authorized by the dictionary, no one will deny, that it is inelegant. '*Tedium*' is not English; and

'relucted' comes very reluctantly into the ranks. 'Lit' for lighted has hitherto never been admitted into good company, and we hope never will be. At the entry of Washington into Trenton 'the young ladies *is* charmingly sung' an ode; but we wish the newspaper style had been changed. In a second edition, to which we hope Mr. Bancroft's essay will soon come, he may easily correct such trifling inaccuracies, as these, 'overcome *at* [by] the loss of;' 'to [with] which the house concurred;' the expectation that the war would this season terminate, as a dream *passed* away.' The orthography of South Carolina and New-York throughout the volume we dislike; and we believe the names of de Ternay and Des-touches on page 268 are *spelt* wrong.

From either of these books the publick could not reasonably expect any information about projects or events, which may not be found in the valuable volumes of Chief Justice Marshall. In a note indeed Dr. Ramsay has informed us, we know not on what authority, that had Washington declined his appointment of commander in chief at the commencement of our war, that office was to have been conferred on general Ward of Massachusetts; and this is the only fact, which he could not have derived from Marshall. A very interesting relation is given by Mr. Bancroft of the kindness of Washington to the son of his old friend the Marquis La Fayette, which will undoubtedly be read with eagerness for its novelty and tenderness. We wish Judge Marshall had comprized in his last volume a circumstance, that ap-

well exhibits the prudence and benevolence of Washington.

ART. 68.

A geological account of the United States, comprehending a short description of their animal, vegetable, and mineral productions, antiquities, and curiosities. By James Mease, M. D. member of the American philosophical society, and corresponding member of the literary and philosophical society of Manchester. Philadelphia, Birch & Small. 1807. 12mo. pp. 496.

BOOK-MAKING has of late years been practised with great success in England; and it must be confessed, that in this country we have already made great progress in learning this valuable art. Some of the late travels in England are said to have been composed without the labour of journeymen, by the assistance of former tourists, in the snug elbow-chair of a circulating library. The work before us was undoubtedly made in some such place; but Mr. Mease has improved upon the plan, and by using the words of the original authors, has saved himself the trouble of clothing their ideas in new language, which was before thought necessary. In future, any person wishing to become an author, need know nothing of the subject upon which he makes his book; he has only to take such works of his predecessors as are nearest at hand, and transcribe *quantum sufficit*. The work of Mr. Mease is composed of shreds from authors, who have written upon North-America. It is a patch-work, where, though the

recognise the materials of authors who had once afforded us instruction and pleasure, yet we find them so cut up, arranged with so little judgment, and joined in so clumsy a manner, that we forget the delight we had derived from the originals.

The first hundred and eighteen pages, upon the internal structure, the climate, and the winds of the United States, are abridged, with a few little alterations and some small additions, from the English translation of Mr. Volney's work on these subjects. Mr. Mease does not inform us of this. He says, indeed, in his preface: 'In treating of the climate, the geology and winds of the United States, the divisions and remarks of Mr. Volney have been assumed as the basis.' But this does not imply the superstructure and the whole edifice. Nor does Mr. Mease lead us to conclude, that he has copied the work of Mr. V. either by changing the first person of the verb in the original for the neuter third person; as, 'it is remarked,' for 'I have remarked;' or by citing, among other authorities, Mr. V. himself, to support his own text. A note, indeed, sometimes corrects the statement in the text, as if it was the work of some other person. We cannot give Mr. Mease much praise for this abridgment. He has inserted some of those absurd passages, which we only pardon in Volney: for the excellence of the other parts of his work he has omitted some interesting details, and curtailed others. But as this part of the work will come under review, as the property of Mr. V. in some future number, we shall make no further remark upon it at present.

Mr. Mease next proceeds to

give a short account of each of the great lakes, which is principally taken from Morse's geography, and Mr. Morse's name is put at the bottom of the page. The account of lake Champlain however is transcribed from Williams' history of Vermont, but the name of Mr. W. is not mentioned.

From lakes Mr. Mease proceeds to rivers, of which he mentions but a small number. The account of these is taken from Morse, Belknap, and several others, but is quite cursory. At the end of this article he says: 'A further description of the rivers of the United States would be unnecessary, and not consistent with the nature of this work; especially too as they are so fully described in the excellent geography of Rev. Dr. Morse, whose work should be in the hands of every one who wishes to become accurately acquainted with this country.' This compliment, we suppose, is meant to pay for the goods he has stolen from the Doctor.

The next chapter is upon the soil and vegetables of the United States. The first article is extremely superficial, and contains a short paragraph upon the soil of each state, mostly transcribed from Morse. He modestly allows, that the materials are principally from that gentleman. The other article upon vegetables does not inform us of any considerable number of the plants that grow in this country; but it contains a tolerable description of a few of those that are mentioned. The account of grasses is full and satisfactory; but we believe green-sward is not the only species that will root out clover the first year. The part upon oaks is from the valuable work of Michaux.

The next chapter is upon animals. Dr. Mease confines the meaning of this word to quadrupeds. Of the first article we can say that he gives a tolerable account of the few quadrupeds that he mentions. In the other articles upon birds, fishes, insects, and reptiles, he treats but of a few of each kind, and of these in general superficially; though we would except the descriptions of the locust, rattlesnake, and some others.

The fifth chapter is upon minerals and fossils, and mineral springs. The first article, we think, ought to have been introduced in the former part of the work, upon the internal structure, &c. It is superficial, and is rather an account of particular minerals, found in particular places, than a general description of the minerals of the United States. The minerals of New-England are almost wholly neglected.

The last chapter includes natural curiosities, cataracts, cascades, caverns, Western antiquities, and bridges. Among the natural curiosities we find floating islands, and solid rivers. Kind reader, we are not speaking of Gulliver's travels, but of a geological view of the United States, in which we are told that the most scrupulous attention has been exercised in ascertaining the accuracy of the facts and statements. The account of this solid river is so great a curiosity, that we shall insert it for the amusement of our readers, particularly of those who may live near its banks. Two hundred miles from the sound is a narrow, (in Connecticut river) of five yards only, formed by two shelving mountains of solid rock, whose tops intercept the clouds. Through this chasm are compelled to pass all the waters,

which, in the time of the floods, bury the northern country. At the Upper-Cross, the river then spreads twenty-four miles wide; and for five or six weeks, ships of war might sail over lands, that afterwards produce the greatest crops of hay and grain in all America. People, who can bear the sight, the groans, the tremblings, and surly motion of water, trees, and ice through this awful passage, view with astonishment one of the greatest phenomena in nature. Here water is consolidated without frost, by pressure, by swiftness between the pinching sturdy rocks, to such a degree of induration, that no iron crow can be forced into it; here iron, lead, and cork have one common weight; here, steady as time, and harder than marble, the stream passes irresistible, if not swift as lightning. The electric fire rends trees in pieces with so greater ease, than does this mighty water. The passage is about four hundred yards in length, and of a zigzag form, with obtuse angles. This first appeared, we believe, in Peters' account of Connecticut; a romance written by a refugee in England, during the American war; and it seems was too marvellous a story, even for the faith of Dr. Morse, from whom the rest of this article, excepting the natural bridge of Virginia, is transcribed. Cataracts and caves occupy the succeeding part of this chapter; then Western antiquities, from Harris' tour, and the whole concludes with a long account of the two bridges lately erected over the Schuylkill and Delaware.

We have thus given a short outline of Mr. Mease's book, and have in some parts pointed out the authors, from whose works Mr. M. has transcribed. We forbore from singling the reader and ourselves

with pointing out the author of each particular paragraph. It will be sufficient to say, that we have found about three quarters of this book transcribed from Volney, Morse, Williams, and other writers upon North-America, in general literally, but sometimes the words a little altered. Had we taken the trouble to have examined, we have no doubt but we should have found the greater part of the remainder transcribed in the same manner. Yet, with all this assistance, Mr. Mease does not give even a tolerable idea of the United States. Excepting in that part which is taken from Volney, no general idea is given upon any subject. He mentions but a small number of the rivers of the United States, and refers to Morse for the remainder. In the same manner he describes grasses and oaks minutely, while the greater portion of the vegetable tribe are passed over without notice. His account of birds includes only eleven species; and under the head of reptiles, we find an account only of the rattlesnake. We should likewise from this book suppose New-England destitute of minerals, nor should we know, that there were more than two bridges, in the union. To have given a correct general idea of the United States, would have required judgment and investigation; Mr. Mease has exercised neither, but has contented himself with giving whatever presented itself upon the subject of his work. He introduces sufficient original matter to let us know that he has strong American feelings. He would show, that our animals are larger, our soil more productive, and our country more salubrious, than those in Europe. He would even attempt to prove, that the extreme variable-ness of our climate makes it more healthy. The account he introduces, attributing the superior mildness of the English winter to the gulf-stream is certainly erroneous; for when that stream strikes the banks of Newfoundland, although the greater part may be turned off towards Europe, yet a part returns in an eddy along the shores of Maine and Massachusetts, and would produce a greater effect upon our climate, than the larger body would upon the climate of England, (even supposing it reached that country) after having traversed the Atlantick.

The style must of course be as various as that of the authors, from whom Mr. Mease transcribes. We shall give one instance to show with how little ability he has put his work together. In speaking of the Monongahela, he says: 'At sixteen miles from its mouth is Youghigeny; this river is navigable with batteaux and barges to the foot of Laurel hill. This river is four hundred yards wide at its mouth.' The transcription from Morse begins with this last sentence, and in his work applies to the Monongahela; but as it is introduced by Mr. Mease it is said of the Youghigeny. Morse says the Muskingum is one hundred and fifty yards wide at its mouth; Mease in copying, says two hundred and fifty. It would be needless to point out other errors. Whether Mr. Mease meant to deceive the publick by passing this off for an original work, we know not. On the one hand, he generally refers to the authors, from whom he has borrowed; on the other, he speaks of using them only as guides and authorities. He never uses double commas, but for short quotations, and frequently does not refer to the author from

whom he has transcribed. In passing sentence, we should not bring him in guilty of theft, but only of taking without leave; that is, if he was detected, we believe he could show, that he had inserted the author's name, and therefore only meant to borrow; if he escaped discovery, he would be very glad to enjoy the benefit of the theft. But allowing Mr. Mease the right of making use of any authors in the manner, that he has done those that we have mentioned, we can scarcely conceive of his having produced so miserable a book. A school-boy would have deserved whipping for not making a better. We can think of but one motive for its publication, and that is profit. If Mr. Mease finds the trade lucrative, and means to continue it, we would advise him in future not to prefix his name, lest the sale should be injured by a remembrance of the present work.

ART. 69.

A letter to Dr. David Ramsay, of Charleston, S. C. respecting the errors in Johnson's dictionary and other lexicons. By Noah Webster, Esq. New-Haven, Oliver Steele & Co. 1807. pp. 28.

This letter is written in answer to one which the author received from Dr. Ramsay, in which the doctor remarks, that "the prejudices against any American attempts to improve Dr. Johnson, are very strong in that city;" and it differs from the usual form of epistolary correspondence, in being transmitted through the medium of the press.

Mr. W. is not surprised at the prejudices mentioned by his correspondent since many, from those

of a similar kind, have been sacrificed for the supposed crime of philosophical heresy. He does not, however, institute an exact parallel between himself and Galileo, (whose case he cites) nor seem to aspire to any high order of martyrdom; but he affirms, that "the man who is deterred, by opposition and calumny, from attacking what he knows to be fundamentally wrong, is no soldier in the field of literary combat."

So much for the exordium: we now come to the principal subject of the letter; to the writer's remarks and statements, intended as a brief sketch of the errors and imperfections in Johnson's dictionary, and the lexicons of other languages, now used as classical books in our seminaries of learning.

We regret that Mr. W. has commenced this part of his performance with that indiscriminate and malignant abuse of Johnson's Dictionary, which originally issued from the foul pen of Horne Tooke. Though he has qualified this *stuff* by expressions, which imply that he would not be thought *quite* to countenance the ungenerous calumny that he quotes, yet we cannot but infer that he is willing it should pass for something very near the truth.

Mr. W. has undoubtedly investigated with much industry, and entirely to his own satisfaction, the Teutonic languages, and the circumstances of the introduction into Great Britain of those dialects, whence many of our words were derived. But there is something singular, if we rightly understand him, in his charging Johnson with "a most egregious error, in supposing the Saxon language to have been introduced into Britain in the fifth century, after the Romans had abandoned the island; while

es,' he farther observes, 'nothing is better attested in history, than that the branch of Teutonick, which constitutes the basis of our present language, was introduced by the Belgick tribes, which occupied the southern part of the island at the time, and evidently before Cæsar invaded the country.' We grant Mr. W. all that he can gain from this imbecile attack. The tribes that he mentions did indeed possess themselves of the coasts of Britain, and drive the natives into the interior; perhaps mixed with them, and had some influence on their language: but what specimens has Mr. W. seen of their language? Dr. Johnson asserts, and the assertion is supported by historians, that the Saxons entered Britain in the middle of the fifth century. The first specimens of writing which are called Anglo-Saxon are much posterior to that time; and it is to similar writings that our author repairs for his etymologies.

The first fault which Mr. W. has noticed in Johnson's Dictionary, is, 'the insertion of a multitude of words that do not belong to our language. The number of this class,' he thinks, 'probably rises to two thousand or more.' It seems however, as well from his own acknowledgment, as the authorities produced by the lexicographer, that they were noted in dictionaries before the time of Johnson. Their preservation has been altogether harmless, except by adding a few leaves to a ponderous work; for we are not acquainted with any writers who search their dictionaries to find out uncommon words: and the vocabulary preserved by memory, and used from recollection, is acquired by reading and conversation, instead of being drawn from the

pages of a lexicon. This *Etym.* therefore complained of is only the liberty of retaining what former writers of dictionaries had introduced.

The next objection brought against Johnson, is, his 'injurious selection of authorities.'

'Among the authors cited in support of his definitions,' says the writer, 'there are indeed the names of Tillotson, Newton, Locke, Milton, Dryden, Addison, Swift, and Pope; but no small portion of words in his vocabulary are selected from writers of the seventeenth century, who, though well versed in the learned languages, had neither taste, nor a correct knowledge of English. Of these writers Sir Thomas Brown seems to have been a favourite; yet the style of sir T. is not English; and it is astonishing that a man attempting to give the world a standard of the English language, should have ever mentioned his name, but with a reprobation of his style and use of words.'

We are not particularly anxious to vindicate the style of sir Thomas, though we have some respect for his labours. But why, Mr. W., this falling out with writers of the seventeenth century? In what period of the world did Tillotson, Locke, Milton, and Dryden live and write? Milton published some of his smaller poems, and several tracts in prose, before *Brown's vulgar errors* saw the light. But Tillotson, Locke, and Dryden, having, fortunately, written a few years after the subject, sir Thomas, fell into the Augustan age of English literature.

Mr. W. has indeed quoted several passages from Brown, quoted by Johnson for authorities in the use of words, which sufficiently betray the affectation of the writer.

He is also confident that the number of words inserted, which are not authorized by any English writer, and those which are found only in a single pedantick author like Brown, and which are really no part of the language, amount to four or five thousand; at least a tenth part of the whole number. He infers therefore, that Johnson's Dictionary furnishes no standard of correct English; but in its present form tends very much to pervert and corrupt the language. Let experience decide how far the work has this corrupting tendency. The writer concedes, under the next head of objections, that it is questionable how far vulgar and cant words are to be admitted into a dictionary; but, if any portion of such be inadmissible, Johnson has transgressed the rules of lexicography beyond any other compiler.

It is well known that, of this description of words, some are adopted on the authority of Ben Jonson, and a large proportion on that of Shakspeare. Shakspeare is an author whom the English, and all who speak the same tongue, reverence and admire: an author who will last as long, as the language in which he wrote. He has been more read and more commented upon, than any other writer of his nation; and hence certainly he is entitled to an explanation of those words, which, though not current in the eighteenth century, and used, many of them, as low, cant terms in his own age, are yet a part of written language. But what sort of reception has Johnson given to these words? Mr. W. has examined his work too minutely to be ignorant of the cautious manner in which he has introduced them. They are follow-

ed with a note, *See Johnson's Dictionary, under vulgar and unauthorised*, &c. Mr. W. will not consent that Shakspeare and Ben Jonson should in no case be quoted as authorities. The great end of a dictionary is to enable us, in reading as well as popular as learned writers, to ascertain the meaning of words which are not familiar; for without this means of interpreting them, whose passages might to the bulk of readers forever remain unknown. What thanks should we owe to the authors of our Latin dictionaries, if they had confined themselves to the elegant faculty of the age of Augustus? And if we may with Addison suppose in prospect a state of change and revolution, when the papers of him and his coadjutors shall pass for quaint, vulgar, or obsolete language, a lesson may be drawn, which shall exclude them from the catalogue of pure English authors. If therefore Mr. W. will allow us to suggest a principle to qualify his edition, shall be this; that new words however formed should be received with caution; that old words should be rarely rejected; while, at the same time, in many cases, they should be attended with such marks of censure, as Johnson has very judiciously adopted.

Another charge brought against Johnson's dictionary is, want of just discrimination in his definitions. The examples selected to prove this are in point, and they might be multiplied. It would be next to miraculous, if the definitions in such an immense vocabulary were not sometimes imperfect and sometimes false. There is much difficulty in explaining words nearly synonymous, especially words of a moral import. Simple words also, which cannot be made plain, lose some of their original

* A word made for the sentence.

obscure definition; and ambiguous words, whose etymology as well as meaning is doubtful, must be settled by usage, instead of conjectural derivation.

With Mr. W.'s verbal criticism of several passages from different authors we find no fault: and the utility of verbal criticism, however much the practice of it may be despised, cannot be questioned by those, who will condescend to become the critics, or be patient under their discipline. But with what sort of writers must we suppose Mr. W. to have been conversant, when he tells us that, 'in the course of thirty years reading, he has not found a single author who appears to have been accurately acquainted with the true import and force of terms in his own language.' The best of our writers, probably, for want of sufficiently analysing their words, have sometimes used them in a vague or improper manner. Let us not revolt at the boldness of the accusation, when they are charged with ignorance of the import of words. No doubt Swift, and Temple, and Addison, and Johnson are children in language, and are to be deprecated as dangerous models, and avoided as such, who not only preserved abuses already existing when they wrote, but contributed to increase the corruption of the English tongue. We do not pretend to question Mr. W.'s superiority to these gentlemen as a writer; though from our perverted taste, and long acquaintance with them, we do feel some reluctance in giving up such comparisons. However, persecution is very desirable; and if our prejudices are not too inveterate, and we are not too restless and turbulent when our friends are roughly used, we have the assurance of a guide through the maze of language,

who will never baffle us; whose clue, however subtle, will never break in the labyrinth of etymology; who despises the beaten track, and thinks it not the more eligible, because it has always been pursued.

'Another particular,' says Mr. W., 'which is supposed to add greatly to the value of Johnson's dictionary, is the illustration of the various senses of words by passages from English authors of reputation. Yet, in fact, this will be found on careful examination to be one of the most exceptionable parts of his performance; for two reasons: first, that no small share of his examples are [is] taken from authors who did not write the language with purity; and second, that a still larger portion of them throw not the least light on his definitions.'

He allows that the examples taken from those authors, who did not use language with purity, have not had a very extensive effect in corrupting the style of writing: while many of them therefore, in our view, are useful, the remainder of them are little worse than trifling, in the opinion of our author. The few examples, which he has cited, as throwing no light on the definitions, are sufficiently so to his purpose. There is indeed no necessity of explaining what every one understands; and that Johnson has multiplied authorities under some words, without increasing the value of his work, as a dictionary for the explaining of terms, every one will admit. But we cannot join with Mr. W. in his assertion, that 'OWN PART of Johnson's dictionary is composed of quotations equally as useless as those he has selected.' We are little anxious, however, to oblige the pedantic proposition, that the

pernicious bears to the useful; and are free to declare our satisfaction with the plan of citing passages from reputable authors, and leaving the reader to judge, whether the word to be explained conform in the author quoted to the definition of the lexicographer. Nothing can be more fair in the writer of a dictionary; and instances exhibited from various standard writers to prove the meaning of a word, a meaning which has generally obtained, would satisfy us in opposition to all doubtful, or even indisputable etymologies.

Mr. W. observes, contemptuously enough, that whether this mode of constructing the work was intended for the benefit of the compiler, or whether it was a speculation of the booksellers, as Mr. Tooke has suggested, is hardly worth an inquiry. But an inquiry would satisfy Mr. W. that neither the benefit of the compiler, nor the speculation of the booksellers, dictated the precise form of the Doctor's work. He originally formed it on a plan still larger than that which was executed, and intended that the examples quoted to illustrate his definitions, should serve the double purpose of explaining the meaning of words, and of amusing those who should examine his dictionary. He was obliged to reduce his quotations, if not in number, at least in quantity; and thus to mutilate the extracts, which he had been at so much pains in collecting.

The last defect in Johnson's dictionary, that Mr. W. notices, is the inaccuracy of the etymologies.

The tracing of words through a long line of ancestry, and giving the direct and collateral branches their respective places in the genealogical tree, is undoubtedly very

amusing to some minds, and is not an employment wholly useless and unsatisfactory. But if this sort of learning should be employed to unsettle orthography, and, in all cases, to restore words, whose sense is established, to the meaning of their etymons, however arbitrarily the meaning may have been departed from, we hesitate not to say that the etymologist may be much worse than idle. Under the pretence of purifying what is corrupt, and establishing that which is unsettled, he may form a glossary for a language of his own; but not a standard for interpreting those writers, who use words in their generally received signification. We do not value Johnson particularly for his etymologies; nor deprecate Mr. W.'s intentions to render etymology perfect; but we claim, in anticipation, the right to smile at what is fanciful while we give to that which is plausible the praise of ingenuity, and commend what is probable, and adopt for truth that which admits not of doubt.

After selecting several examples from Johnson to shew what etymology is, and producing a few of his own to shew what he thinks it shall be in his proposed work, Mr. W. proceeds to the production. In this part of his performance he ascribes some general merits to Johnson, and speaks of the modern European improvements in etymology. He has little hope of aid from his fellow-citizens, especially from those in the large towns; while, to heighten their ignorance, he thinks his labour uninterested; and of far less consequence to himself than to his country. He consigns our whole dependence upon European authorities and opinions, and recommends us to purchase with profit

their modern English books. This recommendation probably extends to all those writings that are called *English classicks*, which were doubtless included in Mr. W.'s thirty years reading, whose authors we are told were not accurately acquainted with the true import and force of terms in their own language.

We have extended our review of this pamphlet beyond our common limits for the same number of pages; because it embraces several principles of the lexicographer, some of which are novel, and may prove dangerous in their operation.

We are not among the number of those, who contend that Johnson is faultless. His errors and defects are numerous; but the general plan of his dictionary is judicious, and the execution displays a wonderful extent of research into English writers, and as much accuracy and discrimination in the definitions, as could be expected in the time employed, and with the means that could be procured. It is certainly to be wished, that it were much nearer perfection than it actually is. We are not so bigoted to the work, as to discourage all attempts to improve it, or to produce a better; and we feel perfectly willing to indulge Mr. W. in his labours, even if they promise less in our opinion, than in his own. Not disposed to hazard our reputation as prophets, we forbear to forestal the merit of his intended production.

Mr. W. repeats the remark of Darwin, that the discoveries of Mr. Tooke unfold at a single flash the true theory of language, which had lain for ages buried beneath the leopold number of the schools. That author, however, he adds, has left the investigation incom-

plete. I shall pursue it with zeal, and undoubtedly with success.

What then have we to fear? All the intricacies of language are to be unravelled. Why should we care how? It will be sufficient for us to enjoy the advantages that will result. It has indeed been remarked, that empyricks are always the most confident of curing disease, while they are ignorant of the constitutions of their patient, and the qualities of their prescriptions: but let not a parallel thence be forced for an ungenerous surmise against our author. He has a right to express his confidence at the beginning of the race; and if he should not gain the prize for which he started, it will be the time after his failure, for those who are disposed to worry a jaded author, to assail him with the weapons of *ridicule and malice*.

ART. 70.

An Essay on the rights and duties of nations, relative to fugitives from justice, considered with reference to the affair of the Chew-speak. By an American. Boston, D. Carlisle, 5, Court-street.

If foreigners should ever read our ephemeral and local essays, and should form an opinion of our nation, and of the talents of its literary men, we should have no reason to complain of the contemptuous opinion, which every literary man in Europe entertains of the state of literature in our country. It is a source of no little satisfaction to us, that the work, of which we now propose to take some small notice, can never do any very extensive injury to the reputation of our country; for we much

question whether any man, who did not feel himself obliged to examine it in order to give to the publick some opinion of its character, would ever submit to the painful task of perusing it.

Who would believe, that a man in November 1807, would write a book in order to prove that the British attack on the Chesapeake was unjustifiable, because fugitives from justice could not lawfully be demanded? Is there any man, but the writer of this pamphlet, so stupid, (descend, if you please, to the mob of Baltimore) as to conceive that the attack on the Chesapeake was predicated on the right to obtain the delivery of fugitives from justice? Who does not know, that not an English editor, not a pensioner of St. James's, puts it on the ground of the right to demand fugitives from justice?

But this American, as he styles himself, has taken thirty pages to prove what no man can prove, and what is an absurdity on the face of the proposition, that though the right to demand may be perfect, the obligation to deliver up is imperfect. In other words, there may be a perfect right in one person to demand a thing, yet another person may not be bound to deliver it: a proposition beyond all our ideas of justice or law.

But the only question, which has arisen as to the Chesapeake, this writer wholly neglects, and indeed did not understand; and that is, how far nations are bound to deliver up the deserters from publick ships of friendly powers. When he is ready to explain away the case stated in the late extra sheet of the Palladium, and to show that through all other nations invariably deliver our deserters when demanded; and we deliver the same of all other nations but the

British; still that we have a right to refuse these latter, we shall be glad to hear him, provided he will promise to be less tedious and less witty.

This writer appears to have intended his pamphlet, as an answer to the Yankee Farmer, whom he is pleased to style a "rusticated pettifogger." We take no part in this controversy, but we leave it to the candid judgment of an unbiased publick, which of the two, the American, or the Yankee Farmer, appear to be the most skilled in the art of a pettifogger.

ART. 71.

Sermons on various subjects, devotional, practical, and doctrinal, adapted to the promotion of christian piety, family religion, and youthful virtue. In 2 vols. 8vo. vol. 1, pp. 350. vol. 2, pp. 422.

Worcester, Isaiah Thomas, jr. Two separate volumes of Sermons, with the same title, first published printed at Worcester, March, 1806, by I. Thomas, pp. 300. pp. 407. The other printed at Springfield, by Henry Brewster, March, 1807. 8vo. pp. 408.

A view of the doctrine and duties of the christian religion, in forty-nine discourses on St. Paul's epistle to the Ephesians, with a preliminary discourse on the excellencies of the gospel, especially those derived from the conversation, ministry, and writings of that apostle. Worcester, I. Thomas, Jr. Sept. 1801. 8vo. pp. 616.

By Joseph Lathrop, D.D. pastor of the first church in West-Springfield.

These of the volumes in the preceding list have been printed before the publick, and their

edition: has been so extensive, that our report of their existence had merits may seem unnecessary or superfluous. There are, however, many readers of our Review, who are but partially acquainted with these works of Dr. Joseph Lathrop; and will be glad to learn what they are, and what has been their order of publication. A new edition of the three volumes alluded to is preparing for the press; and this circumstance authorizes our notice of them at this time.

That the sermons of this divine are popular, the number of volumes successively issued, and the demand for a new edition of those heretofore published, sufficiently prove. That they so well deserve to be popular is a pleasing consideration to the friends of religion and virtue, and the well-wishers to the respectability of the American pulpit. In respect to the selection of subjects, and the manner of treating them, the discourses of Dr. Joseph Lathrop are adapted to general edification. He is so plain and familiar a preacher, as to be intelligible and interesting to the common people; and yet so neat and correct as to satisfy the taste of the more enlightened and cultivated class.

Specimens of almost every species of pulpit address may be expected in a selection made, as we suppose this has been, from the weekly productions of an able and constant composer of sermons in the maturity or decline of his life. The several kinds of sermons have been classed under four heads; including sermons of *explication*, designed to unfold the meaning of a verse or passage of scripture, or clear up a character or narration contained in the sacred records, to be impressed and applied by personal reflections; discourses called

retrospective or prophetic, intended to produce in the hearers a sense of truths believed, or a belief of truths denied or questioned; *demonstrative or panegyric* sermons, in which a life, or a period of the life, or a virtue or vice, in the character of a person mentioned in the volume of scripture, is presented in a striking light, as the object of admiration or blame, to engage imitation or execrable passion, and fear; sermons of *permeation*, the leading design of which is to affect the heart and determine the will, by powerful addresses to the imagination and passions. All the other kinds are to a certain extent included in this last. In order to move and persuade, it is first necessary to instruct, to convince, and please.

In the five volumes under review, discourses of the different species recited, may be found; those of explication especially, in the sermons on the epistle to the Ephesians. In the choice of subjects, the author is mindful of the variety of character and situation in the members of a christian congregation. It is the most interesting and important part of the office of a pastor to feed the lambs of the flock. A large proportion of the instruction in these volumes is directed to the young. The author professes a sermon to his aged brethren in these words: "You will permit an aged man, like yourselves, to speak this afternoon, a few words to you, or, if you please, to will, in your hearing, speak to himself." Texts and topics are chosen with a view to silence or satisfy the appetite, to awaken the thoughtless, to affect the listless, to edify the serious, and to comfort the afflicted. This preacher appears to delight to fill his sermons with narratives, and to

water the mild and cheering accents of the promises. At the same time, he does not hesitate, when it is necessary, to take into his hand the lash of severity. He does not fail to marshal before the sinner the denunciations of the divine law.

The complexion of the *doctrines* in these discourses is what is commonly denominated evangelical or orthodox. They display the truths of natural religion, which revelation establishes and illustrates; the being, and perfections, and providence of God, the necessity of piety and virtue, and a future retribution. They insist much, however, on the new relations created by christianity, and the peculiar method in which its blessings are conveyed to mankind. They speak frequently of native depravity, once or twice of total depravity, the consequence of the apostacy of the first pair; of the righteousness and sacrifice of Christ, as the ground of acceptance with God; of the necessity of faith in the atonement; of the influence of the Holy Spirit; and occasionally of personal election; and of the eternal duration of punishment. These doctrines are attempted to be stated with those qualifications, which are requisite to make them appear consistent with other principles universally admitted, with the essential and inherent mercy of God, with the moral agency and accountableness of man, with the interests of moral virtue and of christian good works. In explaining the peculiar doctrines of christianity, this divine is generally contented with the phraseology of the scriptures; and makes a sparing use of the technical terms and subtle distinctions of wrangling theologues, and metaphysical fabricators of

creeds and systems. In the exposition and application of scriptures in proof of doctrine, he displays much critical ingenuity and sound judgment. It may, however, be possible to show with a degree of plausibility, that he has in some instances misconceived the letter of the gospel; and that here and there metaphorical phrases are interpreted literally; and solitary passages, and expressions withdrawn from the context, and made the foundation of general propositions, without sufficient authority.

It must not be dissembled, says the author of Horæ Paulinæ, that there are many real difficulties in the christian scriptures; whilst at the same time more, we believe, and greater, may justly be imputed to certain maxims of interpretation, which have obtained authority, without reason, and are received without inquiry. One of these, as I apprehend, is the expecting to find, in the present circumstances of Christianity, a meaning for, or something answering to, every appellation and expression, which occurs in scripture; or in other words, the applying to the personal condition of christians at this day, those titles, phrases, propositions and arguments, which belong solely to the situation of christianity at its first institution. I am aware of an objection, which weighs much with many serious tempers; namely, that to suppose any part of scripture to be inapplicable to us, is to suppose a part of scripture to be, useless; which seems to detract from the perfection we attribute to these oracles of salvation. To this I can only answer, that it would have been one of the strangest things in the world, if the writings of the New Testament had not, like all other books, been composed for the use

prehension, and consequently adapted to the circumstances of the persons they were addressed to; and that it would have been equally strange, if the great, and in many respects the inevitable alterations, which have taken place in those circumstances, did not vary the application of scripture language.

In this country, especially of late, it has become not unfrequent for preachers, who have the happiness to adopt the popular creed, to indulge themselves and their hearers in a dogmatical censorious manner of maintaining their sentiments. In contending for what they deem the faith once delivered, they display more zeal than candor, or modesty, or humility, or equity. Doubtless there are great temptations to this fault. It originates in infirmities and passions, to which good men are liable. It may consist with sincerity in religion, tho' it is no proof of their wisdom and no part of their piety. In the church, as in the state, the people are prone to like the doctrine, which makes them think highly of themselves and their leaders, and contemptuously of others, belonging to a different party. They are pleased to be told, your creed is your virtue and your neighbour's creed his crime. When he comes to your faith, enters into your views, admits your dogmas and uses your phrases, then receive him to your charity; for unity of affection is founded on unity of sentiment.

Dr. Lathrop's discourses are not soured by this narrow, uncharitable, detracting, arrogant, inveighing temper. When he introduces disputed points, it is rather in the spirit of a christian than of a sectarian; of an enlightened enquirer, who knows the difficulties in the

way to truth, and is aware that good minds may differ on the subjects in question, than of a theological champion, insolently assuming the "vantage ground," and aiming to trample under foot any one, who dares to look him in the face.

Dr. L. is a practical preacher. He treats doctrines as subservient to duties, and all genuine religious affections as tendencies to right action. He insists, that his hearers shall judge of their faith by their works, and not of their works by their faith. He aims to reconcile law and gospel, works and grace, the merits of Christ and the efforts of christians. He represents the great apparatus of divine revelation, as a proper instrument of conversion and improvement, by truths addressed to the understanding and motives addressed to the will; nor does he disparage the use of means by the tenet, that personal religion is a supernatural infusion. The conversion of sinners is a work of God, but a work adapted to their rational and intelligent nature. There is a great variety in the means, by which the spirit awakens sinners to repentance and conviction. Some are excited to serious thoughtfulness by severe affliction or sudden danger; some by a seasonable admonition in private, or by a pertinent word in publick. Manassah was brought to repentance by means of his captivity; the jailor was awakened by an earthquake; Lydia's heart was opened in hearing the word; the Jews were pricked in the heart by Peter's solemn reproof.

In regard to composition, the style and manner of these discourses are simple, natural, unaffected. The language is plain and perspicuous, consisting of words

in familiar use. Passages of scripture are interwoven throughout. The sentences are in general short, or if long, not involved. There are a few of our New-England peculiarities of diction, and a few idioms, which the critic may pronounce vulgar. The author, in the choice of words and the structure of sentences, has not neglected harmony. The ear is seldom offended with asperity and abruptness, and often pleased with the easy flow and numerous cadence of the composition. The style, though plain, is not dry. It is often enlivened by figures, but never set off with that gaudy painting so unsuitable to the dignity of pulpit eloquence. It has strains of sublimity and touches of pathos. The manner is generally interesting and animated, but not impassioned and vehement; sedate, but not languid nor dull. It pleases without dazzling, and impresses without agitating. These sermons are distinguished by good sense, and a serious, benevolent, and amiable spirit. They are the production of a mind, stored with a knowledge of divine things; much acquainted with the depths and shallows of the human heart; attentive to the appearances of human nature, in real life; and imbued with the temper of our holy and benign religion.

The subjects of the respective discourses are here detailed.

Vols. I. and II.

Ser. 1. God glorified in Heaven for the works of creation and providence. 2, 3. God works not for our sakes only, but for his name's sake. 4, 5. The work of redemption marvellous, but divine. 6. Shepherds glorifying God for the birth of a saviour. 7. John leaning on Jesus's bosom. 8. The spectators of the crucifixion smiting their breasts. 9. 10. God's works as king of saints, great and marvellous. 11, 12. God glorified in the punishment of sinners. 13.

Jesus rising early for secret prayer. 14. 15. Family prayer. 16. A Christian family helping their minister. 17. Children in the temple praising the redeemer. 18. The necessity of early religion. 19. The youth assisted in forming his religious sentiments. 20. Samson shorn of his locks. 21. Reflections on Abraham's artifice with Abimelech. 22, 23. The kingdom of God without observation. 24. Innumerable gone to the grave, and every man drawing after them. 25. Reflections on harvest. 26. Christ's miracles recorded, that men might believe. 27. The credibility and importance of this gospel report. 28. The guilt and danger of unbelief. 29. Pilate's indifference to the truth. 30. The horrible guilt of those who strengthen the hands of the wicked. 31, 32. The wonderful destruction of those, who despise the gospel. 33. The cure and conversion of Naaman the leper. 34. The first fruits unto Christ. 35. The obscurity and uncertainty of the way of the wicked. 36. A paralytic healed and the faith of others. 37. A viad poured on the sun considered in accommodation to the present times. 38. Religion essentially included in the love of our country. 39. The influence of religion to enlarge the mind. 40. The changing nature of worldly things. 41. The infamous character of the churl. 42. The different effects of a similar education, illustrated in Herod and Manassah. 43, 44. The dove-like descent of the spirit on Christ. 45. Parting with friends a painful trial. 46. Thankfulness to God for daily benefits. 47. The Christian characterized, who has been with Jesus. 48. The impotent man at the pool of Bethesda. 49. The awl-eyed jailer instructed in the way of salvation. 50. Micah's confidence and disappointment in his priest.

First separate Vol. suppose

Ser. 1. The folly of atheism inapplicable to the gospel, the use a part of unbelief. 3. Enmity useless; which is the natural corollary from the promise to the gospel. 4. To these oracles in all our actions. To this I can only say, that it would have been the spirit of the strangest things in the world, if the writings of the New Testament had not, like all other books, been composed for the use

10. The renovation of all things. 11. Reflections on the story of the Ethiopian eunuch. 12. God to be worshipped in the beauty of holiness. 13. The impertunate friend, or the efficacy of prayer. 14. Avarice and dishonesty covered with the pretexts of prudence and charity. 15. The wisdom and importance of religion. 16. The turning sinner's supplication to God. 17. The good man lying down in peace, and sleeping in safety. 18. The saint employed in his morning devotions. 19, 20. The shortness of time illustrated. 21. The pernicious effects of an inflamed tongue. 22. Noah's thankful egress from the ark. 23, 24. Impiety of offering to God that which costs nothing. 25. Joseph discovering himself to his brethren. 26. Abstaining from evil. 27. Doing good.

Second separate Vol.

Ser. 1. The fear of God. 2. The duty of speaking to the young. 3. Youth invited to the Lord's supper. 4. Early piety the comfort of old age. 5. The infirmities and comforts of old age. 6. Dry bones restored. 7. Birds and beasts preaching to men. 8. Joab laying hold on the horns of the altar. 9. Nothing to be refused, when the Lord hath need. 10. The gate of heaven strait, and many shut out of it. 11. The causes why many, who seek, cannot enter at the strait gate. 12. The awful condition of those, who shall be excluded from the kingdom of heaven. 13. Pilate's inscription on the cross of Christ. 14. The disciples gazing after their ascending Lord. 15. The rainbow around the throne. 16. No temple in heaven. 17. Universal praise for redemption. 18. The wheels of providence. 19. The temper of a christian with regard to moral good and evil. 20. Moral reflections on floods. 21. The impiety of alleging God's promise, as a reason for the neglect of duty. 22. The anointing of the spirit a sure evidence of our title to eternal life. 23. The death of the young lamented and improved. 24. Ezekiel's affliction in the death of his wife, and his behaviour under it. 25. The universal obligation of religion. 26. True religion pure and simple. 27. Folly conspicuous in a virtuous character.

We marked many extracts; for insertion, but have only room for the following:

Floods remind us of our *mutable and mortal* condition. Under a general sentence of mortality on the nation of Israel, Moses said, 'Thou carriest them away as with a flood.'

Time, like a stream, is rolling on, nor stops its course by day nor by night. Yea, it rushes forward with rapidity like a river swelled to a flood.

Streams bend their course in various directions; but all, whatever direction they take, tend to the ocean, where their waters are swallowed up and lost. Men have their different objects and pursuits; but all are alike hastening to the grave; all are pressing forward to the world of eternal retribution.

All the rivers run into the sea, and would soon cease, were they not continued by a succession of waters. The human race is preserved by a succession of mortals. One generation passes away, and another comes. Thus the inhabitants of the earth abide from age to age. The race is called the same, but the mortals, which compose it, like the waters which constitute a river, are changing every day and every hour.

It would be wise for us often to reflect on our transient condition. We are passing away like the floods; we have no abiding place on earth. Let us not set our affection on things below, but look forward to that world, to which we are going. Would a man hurried down a rapid stream, exult in his riches, because he passed along in sight of meadows, fields, groves and houses? Would he call these his own, because he beheld them, and only just beheld them with his eyes? Why should we, who are hurried through life, and carried away as with a flood, glory in the worldly objects, which we see, as we pass along, but scarcely have time to possess?

We are changing our condition, and our relation to things around us. We are passing from place to place, from object to object, from scene to scene, like men floating down a stream. This moment flies, the next succeeds, and goes off like the former, giving place to a successor. One enjoyment, or a amusement departs, and another comes. One design, or employment, is defeated or laid aside, and another taken up. Here we hope for better success. Here, again disappointed, we change our purpose. We walk in a vain show; we are disappointed in vain. Like men

Unknown but of a good, we struggle for
 shore, we have for rest; we raise the
 twig, it breaks; we are driven with
 the stream to the deep; the land we
 sink; we pass from heaven's light, and
 are forever forgotten.
 There is nothing stable here below;

no firm object by which we can hold,
 no solid ground on which we can stand.
 The anchor of our hopes must be fixed
 in the grace and goodness, the promise
 and faithfulness of God.

pp. 298. 2d ed. vol.

CATALOGUE OF NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR DECEMBER.

Sunt boni, non quidem mediocria, non mala plura.—MART.

NEW WORKS.

A Journal of the Voyages and Travels of a Corps of Discovery, under the command of Captains Lewis and Clarke, of the Army of the United States, from the Mouth of the Missouri through the Interior parts of North-America, to the Pacific Ocean, during the years 1804, 1805, and 1806. By Patrick Gass, one of the persons employed in the expedition. With Geographical and Explanatory Notes by the publisher. Price one dollar.

The Manures most advantageously applicable to the various kinds of soils; and the cause of their beneficial effects. By Richard Kirwan, F. R. S. and M. R. I. A. author of the Elements of Mineralogy, &c. Price 37 cents. Philadelphia, Kimber, Conrad and Co.

Politicks for farmers. Coarse copies, price 25 cents. Philadelphia, W. Duane.

A Traverse Table to every degree and quarter degree of the compass of horizon. By Mr. Garnett. Price 75 cents. New-York, E. Sargeant.

The American Register or General Repository of History, Politicks, and Science, for 1806-7, Vol. I. Published by Conrad & Co. Philadelphia, &c. and Andrews and Cummings, Boston, T. and G. Palmer, printers. 8vo. pp. 220. 1807.

Thoughts on the Scripture account of Faith in Jesus, and Life through his name; in a series of Letters. By Thomas Dobson. 12 mo. 75 cts. bound. Philadelphia, Thomas Dobson, 1807.

Letters to Thomas Paine, in reply to his last pamphlet, entitled Examination of the Passages in the New Testament, quoted from the Old, and called prophecies concerning Jesus Christ,

and shewing the fallacy and incompetency of Deism, as a rule for the regulation of human conduct. By Peter R. Maison. New-York, H. G. Southwick.

Some Thoughts on the present dispute between America and Great Britain. By Thomas Green Fessenden. 8vo. New-York. Price 38 cts.

Constitution of the New-England Association of Inventors and Patrons of useful arts. 8vo. pp. 24. Boston, E. Lincoln. 1807.

The Trial of the Hon. Matthew Livingston, against James Cheetham, for a Libel; held before the Hon. Judge Spencer. Taken in short hand, by William Sampson, Esq. counsellor at law. 8vo. pp. 64. New-York, S. Gould. 1807.

A complete Refutation of the calumnies, which have been circulated to traduce the courage of Hon. George Cranfield Berkeley, grounded on authentic documents. By a Philo Calumny. 8vo. pp. 12. New-York, printed for the author. 1807.

The Trial of Alpheus Hitchcock, before the Hon. William W. Van Ness, Esq. for the murder of his wife by poison, at a court of oyer and terminer at Sullivan, Madison county, New-York, July 3, 1807. Reported by George Richards, Jun. 8vo. pp. 52. Utica, printed for G. Richards, Jun. 1807.

Constitution of the first Society of Unitarian Christians in the city of Philadelphia, adopted August 23, 1807. With explanatory observations. 8vo. pp. 24. Philadelphia, Bartram and Reynolds. 1807.

Peace of War? or the progress of our affairs with England. By James Cheetham. 8vo. pp. 44. New-York, Matthias Ward, 149 Pearl Street. 1807.

A Book.

Je n'ai pas de nom.
Je vous prie de m'en donner un.

Duc D'Orléans.

Nonem non est nobis:

Duportail

8vo. pp. 24. New-York, Ezra Sargeant.

A Sermon, preached at Belleville, in the 4th parish of Newbury, Nov. 24, 1807, at the dedication of the new Meeting-house in that place. By Rev. James Mifflinote. Newburyport.

Crito's Letters on the commercial representation and the seat of Government. 25 cts. Philadelphia, S. F. Bradford.

The French Tutor, containing rules and exercises intended to exemplify the French Syntax: By Du Moutin, sworn interpreter of the French language, of Philadelphia. Philadelphia, Hopkins and Co.

A Discourse delivered at Milton, September 9, 1807; being the day appropriated for the dedication of the academy in that place. By Thomas Thacher, a. m. minister of a church in Dedham. Published by request of the Academy. 8vo. pp. 23. Dedham, H. Mann.

A Discourse delivered at the funeral of Mrs. Mary Woodward, consort of the late Hon. Professor Woodward, in the meeting-house near Dartmouth college, March 29, 1807. By Roswell Shurtleff, professor of Divinity in Dartmouth college. Second edition. 8vo. Hanover, Moses Davis.

Thomas Dobson, Philadelphia, has published *A Tour in Zealand* in the year 1802, with a historical sketch of the battle of Copenhagen under Lord Nelson in 1801.

NEW EDITIONS.

Simple Tales, by Mrs. Opie. 2 vols. 12mo. price two dollars in boards.

Vol. VI. Part II. of The New Cyclopaedia, or Dictionary of Arts and Sciences. By Abraham Rees, D.D., F.R.S., editor of the last edition of Chambers's Dictionary, with the assistance of eminent professional gentlemen. First American edition, revised, corrected, enlarged, and adapted to this country, by several literary and scientific characters. 4to. Price \$4 for the half-vol. Philadelphia, S. F. Bradford. L. Blake, No. 1, Cornhill, agent Boston.

Travels in the year 1806, from Italy to England, through the Tyrol, Styria, Bohemia, Galicia, Poland, and Livonia; containing the particulars of the liberation of Mrs. Spenser Smith, from the hands of the French police, and of her subsequent flight through the countries abovementioned; effected and written by the Marquis De Salvo, member of the academy of sciences and literature at Turin, &c. First American edition, with a likeness of the marquis. 12mo. 88 cts. bds. Troy, N.Y. Wright, Goodenow, & Stockwell.

The Discarded Son, or Haunt of the Banditti; a tale, by Regina M. Roche, authoress of the Children of the Abbey. 2 vols. 12mo. \$2 bound. New-York, Alsop, Brannan & Alsop.

To-morrow; or the Danger of Delay, by Maria Edgeworth. Price 31 cents. New-York, E. Sargeant.

Religious Pieces: containing Pious Reflections for every day of the month, by Fenelon, archbishop of Cambray; the Superiority of religious views, by John Langhorn, D. D.; the Choice Criterion of Religion by the Rev. J. Moir, A. M.; on Gaining the Favour of God, by Mrs. Chapone. Price 25 cents. New-York, E. Sargeant.

The Contrast. By Maria Edgeworth. Price 27 cents. New-York, E. Sargeant.

The Student's Chemical Pocket Companion. By W. S. Jacobs, M. D. Philadelphia, Matthew Carey. 75 cts. bds.

WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Vol. III. of Boswell's Life of Johnson. Boston, Andrews and Cummings.

The Pharmacopoeia of the Massachusetts Medical Society, 12 mo. Boston, Greenough and Stebbins.

Saul, a poem by Sotheby. 12mo. Boston, David Carlisle.

Wright, Goodenow and Stockwell of Troy, have in the press, and will publish in January, "Observations on Abortion"; containing an account of the manner in which it takes place, the causes which produce it, and the method of preventing or treating it: by John Burns, Lecturer on Midwifery, and Member of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow, in one small neat volume duodecimo, from the second London edition.

Wright, Goodenow & Stockwell, have in press, a new Medical Work, entitled "A view of the Nervous Temperament," by Thomas Trotter, M. D.

In the press, and to be published in numbers at stated periods, illustrated by elegant copperplate engravings, the American Military Library, being a repository of all that is necessary to a due knowledge of the principles and practice of modern tactics, from the first elements of discipline, through all the details of manœuvre, and the combination of every species of troops that constitute armies, particularly adapted to the military of the United States, comprehending the whole of the modern French system of discipline. Philadelphia, Wm. Duane.

Alsop, Brannan and Alsop, of New-York, have in press the first volume of Schoale's and Lefroy's Reports of Cases argued and determined in the High Court of Chancery, in Ireland, during the time of Lord Redesdale.

Alsop, Brannan and Alsop, have in press, and will shortly publish the following works. Cruise's Digest of the Laws respecting Real Property, in 4 volumes royal 8vo. containing the seven vols. of the London copy. Natural and Civil History of the Spanish Provinces of Chili in South America; translated from the original Italian of the Abbe Molina, with notes from the Spanish and French translations, by an American gentleman—3 volumes 8vo. The History of Chili is now for the first time offered to the public in an English dress. The original work is held in the highest estimation by the foreign literati in whose respective languages it has appeared. An English translation has long been a desideratum to those acquainted with the Abbe Molina's merits. Curran's speeches—1 volume 8vo. with a portrait of the greatest forensic orator of modern times. Walker's Critical Pronouncing Dictionary, abridged—1 volume square 12mo. Cain's Practice of the State of New-York.

Thomas Kirk, of Brooklyne; has in the press; the Discarded Son, a novel by Mrs. Roach.

Wm. P. Farrand and Co. of Philadelphia, have in the press Douglass, Wilson, and Cowper's Reports; Roberts on Fraudulent Conveyancing; Kyd on Awards; and Watson on Partnership. W.P.F. and Co. are preparing to pub-

Racon's Abridgment to press, with the addition of English and American laws, since Mr. Gwillim's notes were added.

Messieurs Westcott & Co. of Washington City, have in the press "A minute, accurate and impartial report of the Trial of Col. Aaron Burr, on an indictment for high treason, before the Circuit Court of the United States held in Richmond, May term, 1807. Including the whole of the testimony, the arguments of the counsel at length, opinions of the court, and also all the proceedings during the examinations and on his trials for treason and misdemeanour." The report of this case was taken in short-hand by a stenographer employed for the special purpose; and who has been sworn to its fidelity and accuracy. The number of pages, which the work will contain, cannot yet be ascertained; but it is computed it will be comprised in about 1500 pages of an octavo size. It will be delivered to subscribers in volumes, in boards, at the rate of 50 cts. for each 100 pages.

Booth on real actions. Revised and corrected, with references to the American Decisions, and to the statutes of New-York. By John Anthon, Esq. counsellor at law. To which will be added, by way of appendix, a treatise on the nature of real actions, and particularly on the action of Dower. By James Earnest, counsellor at law, Poughkeepsie. New-York, S. Gould.

WORKS ANNOUNCED.

John E. Hall, Esq. attorney at law, of Baltimore, has finished and will speedily publish a translation of the Praxis Supremae Curiae Admiraltatis, Francisci Clerke, prioribus omnibus Editionibus multo auctior atque emendatior, una cum Indice et Notis nunquam antehac adhibitae. Editio quinta emendata, 1798.

Mr. Dobson, of Philadelphia, proposes printing by subscription, the History of Baptism, by the Rev. R. Robinson (of Cambridge, England) abridged by the Rev. Samuel Jones, D. D. in 1 vol. 8vo. of 300 pages. Price in boards 2 dollars.

Smith and Maxwell, Philadelphia, are preparing for the press, An Essay on the Manner and Genius of the Literary Character, by D. Israel.

Thomas Green Fessenden, Philadelphia, is about publishing a work to be entitled "Register of Arts, or a Compendious view of the most useful Modern Discoveries and Inventions." In this work it is intended—1. To collect and in some instances abridge from European Philosophical Journals whatever may be judged to be of practical utility in America, relating to Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Agriculture and the Arts—2. To give a description of the most important Inventions, Discoveries and Improvements in Philosophy and Arts, which are the fruits of American genius, &c. &c. The work will be printed in a handsome 8vo. of about 400 pages.

Proposals are issued by J. Milligan of Georgetown, for publishing *Mathus on Population*, in two volumes.

Proposals have been issued in Philadelphia for publishing, by subscription, the ancient and modern music of Ireland, with songs suited to the character and the expression of its beautiful melodies. The work is to appear in 4to. at \$5 a volume; the number of vols. not mentioned.

We understand that correct editions of the Classics, and of Classical Dictionaries, are about to be undertaken by two literary gentlemen of New York—and we are authorized in saying that I. M. Mason, D.D. is one of the editors. It is expected that a prospectus will appear shortly. It is intended to commence with Virgil and Ainsworth's Dictionary.

B B Hopkins and Co. Philadelphia, will shortly publish Dr. Rees's Domestic Medical Guide, and Dr. Andrew's Elements of Logic.

Mr. Ebenezer Eaton, Danville, Va. proposes to publish, A Historical Memoir on the war between the United

States of America and the African State of Tripoli: By Ebenezer Eaton.—Collected from the journals and notes of Richard O'Brien and William Eaton; Esquires, late Consuls to Algiers and Tunis, and under the inspection and guarantee of the latter. The work will be comprised in 3 volumes of handsome octavo, of plea, 300 to 400 pages each; on fine paper, in the neatest modern style of printing; and will be delivered to subscribers at 2 dols. 33 cents each volume, and to non-subscribers at 2 dols. 50 cents in boards.

B. and T. Kite, Philadelphia, propose publishing in one volume octavo, Elements of Materia Medica and Pharmacology, by J. Murray—price 2 dollars 50 cents.

Thomas Dobson of Philadelphia, proposes publishing by subscription a new Translation of the sacred Scriptures: The old Testament from the Greek of the Septuagint; and the new Testament from the most correct Greek Text; with occasional notes. By Charles Thompson, late secretary to the Congress of the United States. It is proposed to print the work elegantly with a pica type, with great care and accuracy, in two large quarto volumes; and to those who subscribe before the printing of it commences, it will be delivered at \$20 for each copy in boards to be paid when the first volume is finished.

Moses Davis, of Hanover, New Hampshire, proposes reprinting by subscription a rare and valuable work, entitled, The Religion of Nature Delineated. By William Wollaston. From the 8th London edition of 1759. This work will be comprised in one octavo volume of between 3 and 400 pages, price to subscribers \$2 bound.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

FOREIGN.

Among the various works to which the literary enterprize of modern times has given birth, a complete & authentic body of British Biography is still wanting. The last edition of the Biographia Britannica, as far as it was published, is in many respects highly valuable; but its slow progress under the direction of Dr. Kippis, and the circumstances under which it was left at his death, oc-

caioned its suspension at that time, and afterwards its final abandonment. Had that work, however, been brought to its regular completion, its voluminous contents and inconvenient arrangement would have precluded it from answering many important purposes which might be accomplished by a different plan.

The form of a Dictionary hitherto adopted seems to have nothing in its

favour, except the convenience of reference, which may be equally well attained by means of an Index; while it is liable to strong objection, as confining to reference only the use of a work so fortuitously put together. On the contrary, a British Biography, arranged in chronological order, and so classed as to bring into one point of view the several descriptions of eminent persons who have lived at the same period, might be made to comprise, in one regular and connected work, a literary and philosophical history of the country, as well as an interesting collection of individual lives.

Mr. Malkin, influenced by such considerations, has embarked in an undertaking of this nature. The work is, however, of too great an extent, and of too great variety in its subjects, to be performed by any individual. It is, nevertheless, necessary that the publication should proceed under the superintendance of some one person, not merely for the purpose of executing the mechanical duties of editorship, but of communicating an uniformity and consistency to the whole. The labour and responsibility of this task Mr. Malkin proposes to take upon himself, availing himself, in the general execution of the work, of the assistance of such literary men as may coincide with his views, and are willing to contribute towards carrying them into effect.

In pursuance of the double object aimed at by the editor, Historical and Biographical, it is designed to introduce occasional chapters in the course of the work, characterising and connecting the successive periods, as well as reviewing the state and progress of government, science, literature, and manners. In these chapters may be introduced brief notices of individuals, who having attained some degree of eminence, yet may not be thought sufficiently considerable to require a separate and formal article. Thus the work will be curtailed of many uninteresting lives; needless repetitions will be avoided, and the subjects treated at large will be confined, as it is desirable they should be, to those of the most important and interesting description. It is intended that these articles in general should, in point of copiousness, be far less prolix than those of the *Biographia Britannica*, and that notes should, if possible, be altogether avoided, except-

ing by way of reference to authorities, which should almost universally be given; at the same time, the lives are meant to be more full and particular than in any of the Dictionaries. In short, it is the intention of the conductor to steer a middle course between a tedious detail of minute particulars on the one hand, and a mere register of dates and facts on the other, and thus to make it a book of entertainment, as well as of authority and utility for the purpose of reference.

— AMERICAN.

NEW HAVEN, DEC. 23.—On Monday the 14th inst. at about break of day or a little after, the weather being moderate, calm, and the atmosphere somewhat cloudy and foggy, a *meteor* or *fire ball*, passing from a northern point displaced over the western part of this state, with a tremendous report. At the same time several pieces of stony substance, fell to the earth in Fairfield county. One mass was driven against a rock and dashed into small pieces, a peck of which remained on the spot. About three miles distant, in the town of Weston, another large piece fell upon the earth, of which a mass of about thirty pounds weight remains entire—and was exhibited the same day at town meeting. A small mass has been sent to Yale College, and examined by a number of gentlemen. It was immediately perceived by Professor Stilman to contain a metal—and on presenting it to a magnet, a powerful attraction proved it to be iron.

This is we believe, the first instance in the United States, in which the substance of this species of meteor has been found on the earth, tho' it has been often seen in Europe. Fortunately the facts, respecting this wonderful phenomenon, are capable of being ascertained and verified with precision, and an investigation will, we understand, be immediately commenced for the purpose.

We request Gentlemen who may have observed it in distant parts of the state to favour the public with their observations. It is desirable to ascertain the course or direction of the meteor; the point of compass in which it appeared at different places; its general appearance and velocity; the manner of its explosion, and the time between the explosion and the report.

THE POLITICAL CABINET.

Registra in usum historia complectuntur principum edicta, senatum decreta, iudiciorum processus, orationes publice habite, epistolæ publice missæ, et similia, absque narrationis contextu, sive filo continuo.—Bacon de Aug. Sci.

LETTER

From the Secretary of the Treasury, enclosing a Report, prepared in obedience to the acts supplementary to the act, entitled "An Act to establish the Treasury Department."

SIR,
I HAVE the honour to enclose a Report, prepared in obedience to the act entitled "an act to establish the treasury department."
I have the honour to be, very respectfully,
Sir, your obedient servant,

ALBERT GALLATIN.

*The honourable the Speaker of the
House of Representatives.*

REPORT.

In obedience to the directions of the act supplementary to the act, entitled "An act to establish the Treasury Department," the Secretary of the Treasury respectfully submits the following Report and Estimates :

REVENUE & RECEIPTS.

The nett revenue arising from duties on merchandise and tonnage which accrued during the year 1804, amount-
ed, after deducting that portion which arose from the additional duties constituting the Mediterranean fund, to

\$12,673,568

And that which accrued during the year 1805, amount-
ed, after making a similar deduction, as will appear by the statement (A) to

13,033,893

It is ascertained that the nett revenue which has accrued during the three first quarters of the year 1806, exceeds that of the corresponding quarters of the year 1805 ; and that branch of the revenue may, exclusively of the Mediterranean fund, be safely estimated for the present at thirteen millions of dollars.

The statement (B) exhibits in detail the several species of merchandize, and other sources, from which that revenue was collected during the year 1805.

It appears by the statement (C) that the sales of the publick lands, have, during the year ending on the 30th Sept. 1806, exceeded 473,000 acres. The actual payments by purchasers have, during that period, amounted to \$50,000 dollars, of which sum near 700,000 dollars have been paid in specie, and the residue in stock of the publick debt. The specie receipts from that source may, after deducting charges and the five per cent. reserved for roads, be estimated for the ensuing year at five hundred thousand dollars.

The receipts arising from the permanent revenue of the United States, may therefore, without including the arrears of direct tax and internal revenues, the duties

on postage and other incidental branches, be computed for the year 1807, at thirteen millions and five hundred thousand dollars,

13,500,000

And the payments into the treasury, during the same year, on account of the temporary duties constituting the Mediterranean fund, are estimated at one million of dollars,

1,000,000

 14,500,000

Making in the whole an aggregate of fourteen millions and five hundred thousand dollars.

EXPENDITURES.

The permanent expenses are estimated at \$11,400,000, and consist of the following items, viz.

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. The annual appropriation of eight millions of dollars for the payment of the principal and interest of the publick debt, of which sum not more than 3,600,000 dollars will, for the year 1807, be applicable to the payment of interest, | 8,000,000 |
| 2. For the civil department, and all domestick expenses of a civil nature including invalid pensions, the light-house and mint establishments, the expenses of surveying publick lands, the fourth instalment of the loan due to Maryland, and a sum of 130,000 dollars to meet such miscellaneous appropriations, not included in the estimates as may be made by Congress, | 1,150,000 |
| 3. For expenses incident to the intercourse with foreign nations, including the permanent appropriation for Algiers, | 200,000 |
| 4. For military and Indian departments, including trading houses, and the permanent appropriation for certain Indian tribes, | 1,150,000 |
| 5. For the naval establishment | 900,000 |
| | 11,400,000 |

The extraordinary demands for the year 1807, already authorized by law, amount to two millions seven hundred thousand dollars, viz.

The balance of the American claims assumed by the French convention, which remained unpaid on the 30th Sept. last amounting to

700,000

And the two millions of dollars appropriated by the act of the 13th of February, 1806, making provisions for defraying any extraordinary expenses attending the intercourse between the United States and foreign nations,

2,000,000

 2,700,000

 14,100,000

Making altogether fourteen millions one hundred thousand dollars. From which it appears, that besides a surplus of four hundred thousand dollars, the resources of the ensuing year will be sufficient to meet the current demands; and to discharge, without recurring to the loan authorized by the last mentioned act, the extraordinary appropriation of two millions for foreign intercourse.

It is here proper to state, that under the authority given by that act, a credit of one million of dollars has been opened in Holland to the ministers of the United States appointed to treat with Spain. Should the credit be used, the million will be charged to the proper appropriation; but although the balance chargeable to the expenditure of the year 1807, will in that

case be only one, instead of two millions, as stated in the above estimate, the general result will be the same; as it will then be necessary to replace in Holland the million thus employed, for a different object than the payment of the foreign debt, to which it now stands charged.

The balance in the treasury amounted, on the 30th day of Sept. 1805, to 4,558,664 dolls. 2 cents, and on the 30th day of September, 1806, to 5,496,969 dollars, 77 cents. But it will, on account of the heavy payments to be made in the course of this month, for the publick debt, be probably reduced on the 1st January, 1807, to a sum not much exceeding four millions of dollars.

PUBLICK DEBT.

The annexed note of the proceedings of the commissioners of the sinking fund, marked (K) shows that a considerable portion of the annual appropriation of eight millions of dollars was applicable this year to the reimbursement of purchase of the domestick debt: no more than 17, 517 dollars 61 cents were offered at market price, and accordingly purchased. The reimbursement of the navy 6 per cent. stock, amounting to 711,700 dollars, was therefore effected on the 30th day of Sept. last, and that of the 5 1-2 per cent. stock, amounting to 1,847,500 dollars, is advertised for the 1st of Jan. next. The payment of the last mentioned sum will be made by the treasury in the course of this month. Although a more than usual portion of the appropriation for the calendar year, 1806, falls, for that reason, on the last quarter, it appears by the statement (D) that the payments on account of the principal of the publick debt, have, during the year ending on the 30th day of Sept. 1806, amounted to near three millions two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

It appears by the same statement, that the payments on account of the principal of the publick debt, have from the 1st of April, 1801, to the 30th of Sept. 1806, amounted to 21,203,903 50

The payments on the same account to be made by the treasury in the course of this month, are—

For the reimbursement of the five and a half per cent. stock,	1,847,500	
For the annual reimbursement of the six per cent. and deferred stocks,	993,389 19	
Amounting together, to	2,840,889 19	
		24,044,792 74

And making the total of principal of the publick debt, reimbursed from the first of April, 1801, to the first of January, 1807, more than twenty-four millions of dollars.

During the same period there have also been paid to Great-Britain, in satisfaction and discharge of the money which the United States might have been liable to pay in pursuance of the provisions of the sixth article of the treaty of 1794, two millions six hundred and sixty-four thousand dollars; and to the holders of bills drawn by the minister of the United States, at Paris, on account of American claims assumed by the convention with France a sum not exceeding three millions and fifty thousand dollars; neither of which sums is included in the preceding statement of debt redeemed.

As the only parts of the publick debt which the United States have a right to reimburse during the year 1807 consist of the annual reimbursements of the six per cent. and deferred stocks, estimated at 1,540,707 dollars; and of the four and half per cent. stock, amounting to 176,000 dollars; it will not be practicable, unless purchases can be effected within the limits prescribed by law, to apply, during that year, the whole of the annual appropriation of eight millions of dollars. The unexpended balance, together with appropriations for the year 1808, will enable the United States to reimburse, on the 1st January, 1809, the whole of the eight per cent. stock, which is irredeemable before that day.

But in order that congress may have a clear view of the situation of the publick debt, after the year 1808, and be enabled to decide on the propriety of making further legislative provisions for that object, it appears necessary to state distinctly : 1st. The operations which will take place in relation to the debt during the years 1807 and 1808 : 2dly. The several species and aggregate of debt, which will have been extinguished between the 1st April, 1801, and the 1st January, 1809 : 3dly. The several species and aggregate of debt remaining unpaid on the last mentioned day : 4thly. A comparative view of the revenue and annual payments on account of the debt after that day.

I. The payments to be made during the years 1807 and 1808, on account of the principal and interest of the publick debt, consists of the following items, viz.

Interest and reimbursement of the six per cent. and deferred stocks,	6,688,296 08
Of which sum, the sum required for interest, is	3,512,337 83
And the reimbursement of principal will amount to	3,175,958 25
	<u>6,688,296 08</u>
Interest and charges on all the other species of debt,	3,529,457 50
Principal of the eight, and four and a half per cent. stocks,	6,538,400
	<u>16,756,153 58</u>
That is to say, for interest,	7,041,795 33
And in reimbursement of principal,	9,714,358 25
	<u>16,756,153 58</u>

This sum exceeds, by only 756,000 dolls. the sixteen millions appropriated by law for those 2 years, and that difference may be supplied, according to law, from the surplusses of revenue already accrued, which are sufficient for that purpose ; and which it will be eligible to apply in that manner, in order that the United States may not continue to pay an interest of eight per cent. any longer than they are compelled to do it by the terms of the loan.

II. The amount of debt redeemed from the 1st April, 1801, to the 1st of Jan. next, has been already stated to be 24,44,792 74
 And the principal which will be reimbursed during the years 1807 and 1808, amounts by the preceding statement to 9,714,358 25
 Making together, more than thirty-three millions seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, reimbursed between the 1st of April, 1801, and the 1st of Jan. 1809,

Which sum consists of the following items, viz.	
The whole of the foreign debt,	10,236,108 05
The whole of the loans formerly obtained from the bank of the United States, and of the navy six, five and a half, four and a half, and eight per cent. stocks.	12,537,600
Annual reimbursement of the six per cent. and deferred stocks,	10,631,575 67
Payments in various species of stock for publick lands, stock purchased, and unfunded debt reimbursed,	353,867 27
	<u>33,759,150 99</u>

III. The debt remaining unpaid on the 1st day of January, 1809, will consist of the following species :

Unredeemed amount of old six per cent. and deferred

stocks, reimburseable only at the rate of eight per cent.	
a year (for principal and interest) on the nominal amount,	27,142,357 21
Three per cent. stocks,	19,019,481 56
1796 six per cent. stock, redeemable in 1819,	80,000 00
Louisiana stock, reimburseable in four annual instal-	
ments, in the years 1818, 1819, 1820 and 1821,	11,250,000 00
	<u>57,491,838 77</u>

Amounting altogether to near fifty-seven millions and five hundred thousand dollars.

The Louisiana stock cannot be reimbursed before the period fixed by the contract; the gradual operation of the annual reimbursement will extinguish the old six per cent. in the year 1818, and the deferred stock in 1824; after which year, the only remaining incumbrance will be the interest on the three per cent. stock, which in its present shape, may be considered as irredeemable. Purchase cannot be relied on, as the application of even an inconsiderable sum would raise the stocks above the prices limited by law. It follows that all the species of debt, on which the entire annual appropriation of 8,000,000 of dollars could operate, will have been reimbursed prior to the year 1809; that the remaining debt cannot, without some modifications, assented to by the publick creditors, be more rapidly or completely discharged than is here stated; and that the annual payments on that account, will, after the year 1808, and prior to the year 1818, be reduced to the interest and annual reimbursement, amounting to near 4,600,000, as will more fully appear by the annexed table, marked (G.)

IV. The revenue derived from customs during the year 1802, which was a year of European peace, was much less in proportion than that of any of the immediately preceding or following years, and yet exceeded ten millions of dollars. As it has been ascertained that the population of the United States increases at the rate of thirty-five per cent. in ten years; the revenue derived from customs for the year 1812, may be estimated at thirteen millions five hundred thousand dollars, to which, adding only five hundred thousand dollars, for the annual proceeds of the sales of publick lands will give fourteen millions of dollars, for the total revenue of that year, or for the average revenue of the years 1809—1815. And this must be considered as a very moderate computation, since it does not include the revenue derived from New-Orleans; is predicated on the supposition that the wealth of the United States increases in no greater ratio than their population; and does not exceed the sum, which, exclusively of the Mediterranean fund was received last year into the treasury.

The annual payments on account of the publick debt, will, during the same period, amount, as has been already stated, to 4,600,000 dolls. All the other expenses of the U. S., whether domestick or foreign, of a civil nature or for the support of the existing military and naval establishments, do not at present exceed \$3,500,000. The total annual expenditure, allowing \$400,000 a year for contingencies, may therefore be estimated after the year 1803, at eight millions and a half; which deducted from a revenue of fourteen millions, will leave a nett annual surplus of five millions and a half of dollars.

The question now recurs, whether a portion of that surplus would not be most advantageously employed in hastening the reduction of the debt? Whether some mode may not be devised to provide, within a short period, for its final and complete reimbursement, and thereby release the publick revenue from every incumbrance? This can only be effected by a modification of the debt assented to by the publick creditors; and a conversion of the old six per cent. deferred, and three per cent. stocks, on terms mutually beneficial, into a common six per cent. stock, redeemable within a limited time, appeared the most simple and eligible, if not the only practicable plan that can be adopted. For its details a reference is respectfully made to a letter written in January last, to the chairman of the committee of ways and means, copy of which marked (F.) is annexed. It will only be necessary to state, that if such a plan should be sanctioned by congress, and accepted.

by the creditors, those several species of debt amounting on the 1st Jan. 1808, to something more than \$46,000,000, would be converted into a 6 per cent. stock, amounting to less than \$40,000,000, which the continued annual appropriation of \$8,000,000 would (besides paying the interest on the Louisiana debt) reimburse within a period of less than seven years, or before the end of the year 1815, as will appear by the table marked (H.)

The total annual expenditure for those seven years would then, allowing still 3,500,000 dollars for current expenses, and 400,000 dollars for contingencies, amount to something less than twelve millions of dollars; which deducted from a revenue of fourteen millions of dollars, would still leave after the year 1808, a clear surplus of more than two millions of dollars, applicable to such new objects of general improvement or national defence, as the legislature might direct, and existing circumstances require. And after the year 1815, no other incumbrance would remain on the revenue, than the interest and reimbursement of the Louisiana stock; the last payment of which in the year 1821, would complete the final extinguishment of the publick debt.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALBERT GALLATIN,
Secretary of the Treasury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 5, 1806.

LETTER FROM CAPT. CLARK,

ONE OF THE PARTY APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT TO EXPLORE THE MISSOURI, &c; TO HIS BROTHER.

DEAR BROTHER,

St. Louis, 23d Sept. 1806.

We arrived at this place at 12 o'clock to day from the Pacific Ocean, where we remained during the last winter, near the entrance of the Columbia river. This station we left on the 27th of March last, and should have reached St. Louis early in August, had we not been detained by the snow which barred our passage across the Rocky Mountains, until the 24th of June. In returning through those mountains we divided ourselves into several parties, digressing from the route, by which we went out, in order the more effectually to explore the country, and discover the most practicable route which does exist across the continent by the way of the Missouri and Columbia rivers. In this we were completely successful, and have therefore no hesitation in declaring, that such as nature has permitted we have discovered the best route which does exist across the continent of North America in that direction. Such is that by way of the Missouri to the foot of the rapids below the great falls of that river, a distance of 2575 miles, thence by land passing by the Rocky Mountains, to a navigable part of the Koooskooske 340; and with the Koooskooske 73 miles, Lewis's river 154 miles, and the Columbia 413 miles to the Pacific Ocean, making the total distance from the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi, to the discharge of the Columbia into the Pacific Ocean 3555 miles. The navigation of the Missouri may be deemed good—its difficulties arise from its falling banks, timber imbedded in the mud of its channel, its sand-bars and the steady rapidity of its current, all which may be overcome with a great degree of certainty, by using the necessary precautions. The passage by land of 340 miles from the falls of the Missouri to the Koooskooske, is the most formidable part of the tract proposed across the continent. Of this distance, 200 miles is along a good road, and 140 miles over tremendous mountains, which for 60 miles are covered with eternal snows. A passage over these mountains is, however, practicable from the latter part of June to the last of September; and the cheap rate at which horses are to be obtained from the Indians of the Rocky Mountains, and West of them, reduces the expenses of transportation over this portage to a mere trifle. The navigation of the Koooskooske, Lewis's river, and the Columbia, is safe and good from the first of April to the middle of August, by making three por-

tages on the latter river. The first of which, in descending is 1200 paces at the falls of Columbia 261 miles up that river, the second of two miles at the long narrows 6 miles below the falls, and a third, also of 2 miles at the great rapids 65 miles still lower down. The tide flows up the Columbia 183 miles, and within 7 miles of the great rapids. Large sloops may with safety ascend as high as tide water, and vessels of 300 tons burthen, reach the entrance of the Multhomah river, a large Southern branch of the Columbia, which takes its rise on the confines of New-Mexico, with the Calilerado and Apostle's rivers, discharging itself into the Columbia 125 miles from its entrance into the Pacifick Ocean. I consider this track across the continent of immense advantage to the fur trade, as all the furs collected in nine-tenths of the most valuable fur country in America, may be conveyed to the mouth of the Columbia, and shipped from thence to the East-Indies by the first of August in each year; and will of course reach Canton earlier than the furs which are annually exported from Montreal arrive in G. Britain.

In our outward bound voyage, we ascended to the foot of the rapids below the great falls of the Missouri, where we arrived on the 14th of June, 1805. Not having met with any of the natives of the Rocky Mountains, we were of course ignorant of the passes by land, which existed, through those mountains to the Columbia river; and had we even known the route we were destitute of horses, which would have been indispensibly necessary to enable us to transport the requisite quantity of ammunition and other stores to ensure the remaining part of our voyage down the Columbia; we therefore determined to navigate the Missouri, as far as it was practicable, or unless we met with some of the natives from whom we could obtain horses and information of the country. Accordingly we undertook a most laborious portage at the falls of the Missouri, of 18 miles, which we effected with our canoes and baggage by the 3d of July. From hence ascending the Missouri, we penetrated the Rocky Mountains at the distance of 71 miles above the upper part of the portage, and penetrated as far as the three forks of that river, a distance of one hundred and eighty miles further. Here the Missouri divides into nearly equal branches at the same point. The two largest branches are so nearly of the same dignity, that we did not conceive that either of them could with propriety retain the name of the Missouri; and therefore called these streams Jefferson's, Madison's, and Gallatin's rivers. The confluence of those rivers is 2848 miles from the mouth of the Missouri, by the meanders of that river. We arrived at the three forks of the Missouri the 27th of July. Not having yet been so fortunate as to meet with the natives, although I had previously made several excursions for that purpose, we were compelled still to continue our route by water.

The most northerly of the three forks, that to which we had given the name of Jefferson's river, was deemed the most proper for our purpose and we accordingly ascended it 248 miles to the upper forks, and its extreme navigable point; making the total distance to which we had navigated the waters of the Missouri, 3096 miles, of which 429 lay within the Rocky mountains. On the morning of the 17th of August, 1805, I arrived at the forks of Jefferson's river, where I met captain Lewis, who had previously penetrated with a party of three men, to the waters of the Columbia, discovered a band of the Shoshone nation, and had found means to induce 35 of their chiefs and warriors to accompany him to that place. From these people we learned that the river on which they reside was not navigable, and that a passage through the mountains in that direction was impracticable; being unwilling to confide in this unfavourable account of the natives, it was concerted between Capt. Lewis and myself, that one of us should go forward immediately with a small party, and explore the river, while the other, in the interim would lay up the canoes at that place, and engage the natives with their horses to assist in transporting our stores and baggage to the camp. Accordingly I set out the next day, passed the dividing mountains between the waters of the Missouri and Columbia, and descended the river which I since called the East fork of Lewis's river, about 70 miles. Find-

ing that the Indians' account of the country in the direction of this river was correct, I returned and joined capt. Lewis on the 29th of August at the Shoshone camp, excessively fatigued as you may suppose; having passed mountains almost inaccessible, and compelled to subsist on berries during the greater part of my route. We now purchased 27 horses of these Indians, and hired a guide, who assured us that he could in 15 days take us to a large river in an open country west of these mountains, by a route some distance to the north of the river on which they lived, and that by which the natives west of the mountains visit the plains of the Missouri, for the purpose of hunting the buffalo. Every preparation being made, we set forward with our guide on the 31st of August through these tremendous mountains, in which we continued until the 22d of September, before we reach the lower country beyond them: on our way we met with the Olelahoot a band of the Tuchapaks, from whom we obtained an accession of seven horses and exchanged eight or ten others; this proved of infinite service to us, as we were compelled to subsist on horse beef about eight days before we reached the Kooskooske. During our passage over those mountains we suffered every thing which hunger, cold, and fatigue could impose.

Nor did our difficulties with respect to provisions cease on our arrival at the Kooskooske, for although the Pallotepallors, a numerous nation inhabiting that country, were extremely hospitable, and for a few trifling articles furnished us with abundance of roots and dried salmon, the food to which they were accustomed; we found that we could not subsist on these articles, and almost all of us grew sick on eating them; we were obliged therefore to have recourse to the flesh of horses and dogs, as food to supply the deficiency of our guns, which produced but little meat, as game was scarce in the vicinity of our camp on the Kooskooske, where we were compelled to remain in order to construct our perogues to descend the river. At this season the salmon are meagre and form but indifferent food. While we remained here I was myself sick for several days, and my friend Capt. Lewis suffered a severe indisposition.

Having completed four perogues and a small canoe, we gave our horses in charge to the Pallotepallors until we returned, and on the 7th of Oct. re-embarked for the Pacifick Ocean. We descended by the route I have already mentioned. The water of the river being low at this season, we experienced much difficulty in descending, we found it obstructed by a great number of difficult and dangerous rapids, in passing of which our perogues several times filled, and the men escaped narrowly with their lives. However, this difficulty does not exist in high water, which happens within the period which I have previously mentioned. We found the natives extremely numerous and generally friendly, though we have on several occasions owed our lives and the fate of the expedition to our number, which consisted of 34 men. On the 17th of November we reached the ocean, where various considerations induced us to spend the winter; we therefore searched for an eligible situation for that purpose, and selected a spot on the south side of a little river, called by the natives Netul, which discharges itself at a small bar on the south side of the Columbia, and 14 miles within point Adams. Here we constructed some log houses, and defended them with a common stockade work; this place we called Fort Clatsop, after a nation of that name who were our nearest neighbours. In this country we found an abundance of elk, on which we subsisted principally during the last winter; we left Fort Clatsop on the 27th of March. On our homeward bound voyage, being much better acquainted with the country we were enabled to take such precautions as in a great measure secured us from the want of provisions at any time, and greatly lessened our fatigues, when compared with those to which we were compelled to submit in our outward bound journey. We have not lost a man since we left the Mandians, a circumstance which I assure you is a pleasing consideration to me. As I shall shortly be with you, and the post is now waiting, I deem it unnecessary here to attempt minutely to detail the occurrences of the last eighteen months.

I am, &c. your affectionate brother,

WM. CLARK.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*To the Senate and
House of Representatives, &c.*

AGREEABLY to the request of the House of Representatives, communicated in their resolution of the 16th inst. I proceed to state under the reserve therein expressed, information received touching an illegal combination of private individuals against the peace and safety of the union, and a military expedition planned by them against the territories of a power in amity with the United States, with the measures I have pursued for suppressing the same.

I had, for some time, been in the constant expectation of receiving such further information as would have enabled me to lay before the legislature the termination, as well as the beginning and progress of this scene of depravity, so far as it has been acted on the Ohio and its waters. From this the state of safety of the lower country might have been estimated on probable grounds, and the delay was indulged the rather, because no circumstance had yet made it necessary to call in the aid of the legislative functions. Information now recently communicated, has brought us nearly to the period contemplated. The mass of what I have received in the course of these transactions is voluminous: but little has been given under the sanction of an oath, so as to constitute formal and legal evidence. It is chiefly in the form of letters, often containing such a mixture of rumours, conjectures and suspicions, as render it difficult to sift out the real facts, and unadvisable to hazard more than general outlines, strengthened by concurrent information, or the particular credibility of the relator. In this state of the evidence, delivered sometimes too under the restriction of private confidence; neither safety nor justice will permit the exposing names, except that of the principal actor, whose guilt is placed beyond question.

Some time in the latter part of September, I received intimations that designs were in agitation in the Western country, unlawful and unfriendly to the peace of the union; and that the prime mover in these was Aaron Burr, heretofore distinguished by the favour of his country. The grounds of these intimations being inconclusive, the objects uncertain, and the fidelity of that country known to be firm, the only measure taken was to urge the informants to use their best endeavors to get further insight into the designs and proceedings of the suspected persons, and to communicate them to me.

It was not till the latter part of October that the objects of the conspiracy began to be perceived, but still so blended and involved in mystery, that nothing distinct could be singled out for pursuit. In that state of uncertainty, as to the crime contemplated, the acts done, and the legal course to be pursued, I thought it best, to send to the scene, where these things were principally in transaction, a person in whose integrity, understanding and discretion, entire confidence could be reposed, with instructions to investigate the plots going on, to enter into conference (for which he had sufficient credentials) with the governors, and all other officers, civil and military, and with their aid, to do on the spot whatever should be necessary to discover the designs of the conspirators, arrest their means, bring their persons to punishment, and to call out the force of the country to suppress any unlawful enterprise, in which it should be found they were engaged. By this time it was known that many boats were under preparation, stores of provisions collecting, and an unusual number of suspicious characters in mo-

tion on the Ohio and its waters. Besides dispatching the confidential agent to that quarter, orders were at the same time sent to the governours of the Orleans and Mississippi territories, and to the commanders of the land and naval forces there, to be on their guard against surprise, and in constant readiness to resist any enterprize which might be attempted on the vessels, posts, or other objects under their care: and on the 8th of November, instructions were forwarded to Gen. Wilkinson to hasten an accommodation with the Spanish commandant on the Sabine, and, as soon as that was effected, to fall back with his principal force to the hither bank of the Mississippi, for the defence of the interesting points on that river. By a letter received from that officer, of the 25th of November, but dated October 21st, we learnt that a confidential agent of Aaron Burr had been deputed to him with communications, partly written in cypher, and partly oral, explaining his designs, exaggerating his resources, and making such offers of emolument and command, to engage him and the army in his unlawful enterprize, as he had flattered himself would be successful. The general, with the honour of a soldier, and fidelity of a good citizen, immediately dispatched a trusty officer to me with information of what had passed, proceeded to establish such an understanding with the Spanish commandant on the Sabine, as permitted him to withdraw his force across the Mississippi, and to enter on measures for opposing the projected enterprize.

The General's letter, which came to hand on the 25th of November, as has been mentioned, and some other information, received a few days earlier, when brought together, developed Burr's general designs, different parts of which only had been revealed to different informants. It appeared that he contemplated two distinct objects, which might be carried on either jointly or separately, and either the one or the other first as circumstances should direct. One of these was the severance of the union of these states by the Allegany mountains, the other an attack on Mexico. A third object was provided, merely ostensible, to wit, the settlement of the pretended purchase of a tract of country on the Washita, claimed by a baron Bastrop. This was to serve as the pretext for all his preparations, an allurements for such followers as really wished to acquire settlements in that country, and a cover under which to retreat in the event of a final discomfiture of both branches of his real design.

He found at once that the attachment of the western country to the present union was not to be shaken; that its dissolution could not be effected with the consent of the inhabitants; and that his resources were inadequate, as yet, to effect it by force. He took his course then at once, determined to seize on New-Orleans, plunder the bank there, possess himself of the military and naval stores, and proceed on his expedition to Mexico, and to this object all his means and preparations were now directed. He collected from all the quarters where himself, or his agents possessed influence, all the ardent, restless, desperate, and disaffected persons, who were ready for any enterprize analagous to their characters. He seduced good and well-meaning citizens, some by assurances that he possessed the confidence of the government, and was acting under its secret patronage; a pretence which procured some credit from the state of our differences with Spain; and others by offers of land in Bastrop's claim on the Washita.

This was the state of my information of his proceedings about the last of November; at which time therefore it was first possible to take specifick measures to meet them. The proclamation of November 27, two days after the receipt of General Wilkinson's information, was now issued. Orders were dispatched to every interesting point on the Ohio and Mississippi, from Pittsburg to New-Orleans, for the employment of such force, either of the regulars or of the militia, and of such proceedings also of the civil authorities, as might enable them to seize on all boats and stores provided for the

enterprize, to arrest the persons concerned, and to suppress effectually the further progress of the enterprize. A little before the receipt of these orders in the state of Ohio, our confidential agent, who had been diligently employed in investigating the conspiracy, had acquired sufficient information to open himself to the governour of that state, and to apply for the immediate exertion of the authority and power of the state to crush the combination. Governour Tiffin and the legislature, with a promptitude, an energy, and patriotick zeal, which entitle them to a distinguished place in the affection of their sister states, effected the seizure of all the boats, provisions, and other preparations within their reach, and thus gave a first blow, materially disabling the enterprize in its outset.

In Kentucky a premature attempt to bring Burr to justice, without sufficient evidence for his conviction, had produced a popular impression in his favour, and a general disbelief of his guilt. This gave him an unfortunate opportunity of hastening his equipments. The arrival of the proclamation and orders, and the application and information of our confidential agent, at length awakened the authorities of that state to the truth, and then produced the same promptitude and energy of which the neighbouring state had set the example. Under an act of their legislature of December 23, militia was instantly ordered to different important points, and measures taken for doing whatever could yet be done. Some boats (accounts vary from five to double or treble that number) and persons (differently estimated from one to three hundred) had in the mean time passed the falls of Ohio, to rendezvous at the mouth of Cumberland with others expected down that river. Not apprised till very late that any boats were building on Cumberland, the effect of the proclamation has been trusted to for some time in the state of Tennessee. But on the 19th of December similar communications and instructions, with those to the neighbouring states, were dispatched by express to the governour, and a general officer of the western division of the state, and on the 23d of December our confidential agent left Frankfort for Nashville to put into activity the means of that state also. But by information received yesterday, I learn that on the 22d of December Mr. Burr descended the Cumberland with two boats, merely of accommodation, carrying with him from that state no quota towards his unlawful enterprize. Whether after the arrival of the proclamation, of the orders, or of our agent, any exertion which could be made by that state, or the orders of the governour of Kentucky, for calling out the militia at the mouth of Cumberland, would be in time to arrest these boats, and these from the falls of Ohio is still doubtful.

On the whole, the fugitives from the Ohio, with their associates from Cumberland, or any other place in that quarter, cannot threaten serious danger to the city of New-Orleans.

By the same express of December 19, orders were sent to the governours of Orleans and Mississippi, supplementary to those which had been given on the 25th of November, to hold the militia of their territories in readiness to co-operate for their defence with the regular troops and armed vessels then under command of Gen. Wilkinson. Great alarm indeed was excited at New-Orleans by the exaggerated accounts of Mr. Burr, disseminated through his emissaries, of the armies and navies he was to assemble there. Gen. Wilkinson had arrived there himself on the 24th of November, and had immediately put into activity the resources of the place for the purpose of its defence, and on the 10th of December he was joined by his troops from the Sabine. Great zeal was shewn by the inhabitants generally; the merchants of the place readily agreeing to the most laudable exertions and sacrifices for manning the armed vessels with their seamen; and the other citizens manifesting unequivocal fidelity to the union, and a spirit of determined resistance to their expected assailants.

Surmises have been hazarded that this enterprise is to receive aid from certain foreign powers. But these surmises are without proof or probability. The wisdom of the measures sanctioned by congress at its last session, has placed us in the paths of peace and justice with the only powers with whom we had any differences; and nothing has happened since, which makes it either their interest or ours to pursue another course. No change of measures has taken place on our part, none ought to take place at this time. With the one, friendly arrangement was proposed, and the law, deemed necessary on the failure of that, was suspended to give time for a fair trial of the issue. With the same power, friendly arrangement is now proceeding, under good expectations, and the same law, deemed necessary on failure of that, is still suspended to give time for a fair trial of the issue. With the other negotiation was in like manner preferred, and provisional measures only taken to meet the event of rupture. While therefore we do not defect in the slightest degree from the course we then assumed, and are still pursuing, with mutual consent, to restore a good understanding, we are not to impute to them practices as irreconcilable to interest as to good faith, and changing necessarily the relations of peace and justice between us to those of war. These surmises are therefore to be imputed to the wantings of the author of this enterprize, to multiply his partizans, by magnifying the belief of his prospects and support.

By letters from General Wilkinson, of the 14th and 18th of December, which came to hand two days after the date of the resolution of the House of Representatives, that is to say, on the morning of the 18th inst. I received the important affidavit, a copy of which I now communicate, with extracts of so much of the letters as come within the scope of the resolution. By these it will be seen that of three of the principal emissaries of Mr. Burr, whom the General had caused to be apprehended, one had been liberated by *Habeas Corpus*, and two others, being those particularly employed in the endeavour to corrupt the General and army of the United States, have been embarked by him for ports in the Atlantick states, probably on the consideration that an impartial trial could not be expected during the present agitations of New-Orleans, and that that city was not as yet a safe place of confinement. As soon as these persons shall arrive, they will be delivered to the custody of the law, and left to such course of trial, both as to place and process, as its functionaries may direct. The presence of the highest judicial authorities, to be assembled at this place within a few days, the means of pursuing a sounder course of proceedings here than elsewhere, and the aid of the executive means, should the judges have occasion to use them, render it equally desirable for the criminal, as for the publick, that, being already removed from the place where they were apprehended, the first regular arrest should take place here, and the course of proceedings receive here their proper direction.

Jan. 22, 1807.

TH: JEFFERSON.

Extract of a letter from Gen. James Wilkinson, dated New-Orleans, Dec. 14, 1806.

“ After several consultations with the governour and judges, touching the arrear and confinement of certain known agents and emissaries of Col. Burr, in this city and territory, whose intrigues and machinations were to be apprehended, it is with their privity and approbation, that I have caused three of them to be arrested, viz. Doctor Erick Bollman, Samuel Swartwout, and Peter V. Ogden, against whom I possess strong facts, and I have recommended to the governour to have James Alexander, Esq. taken up on the grounds of strong suspicion. These persons and all others, who, by their

character and deportment may be considered hostile to the interests of the United States, or dangerous to this feeble frontier, under the menacing aspect of things from above, will, if my influence can prevail, be seized on and sent by sea to the United States, subject to the disposition of government, and accompanied by such information as may justify their confinement, and furnish a clue to the development of the grounds, progress, and projectors of the treasonable enterprize in which they are engaged.

"This letter will accompany Doctor Bollman, who is to be this day embarked in a vessel bound for Charleston, under the charge of Lt. Wilson of the artillery, who has orders to land with his prisoner at Fort Johnson or Fort Moultrie, to forward this dispatch by mail, and to wait the orders of the executive. Mr. Swartwout will be sent to Baltimore by a vessel which will sail some time the ensuing week, in custody of another subaltern, who will be the bearer of strong testimony against him and also Col. Burr, and the others will follow under due precautions, by the earliest opportunities which may present.

"I deem it essential to keep these prisoners apart, to prevent the adjustment of correspondent answers or confessions to any examination which may ensue, and I hope the measures of the executive may be so prompt and efficient, as to relieve the officers in charge of them from their trust, before the interposition of the friends of the prisoners may effect their liberation.

"By this procedure we may intimidate the confederates, who are unquestionably numerous in this as well as the adjacent territory, disconcert their arrangements, and possibly destroy their intrigues; and I hope the zeal which directs the measure may be justified and approved; for whilst the glow of patriotism actuates my conduct, and I am willing to offer myself a martyr to the constitution of my country, I should indeed be most grievously disappointed did I incur its censure.

"Here, sir, we find the key to the western states, and here we must form one grand depository and place of arms—combine to this disposition a river fleet competent to its occlusion, and post it thirty or forty leagues above the Yazou river, and we may repose in security; for the discontent and sufferings of our insurgent citizens, which must immediately ensue, will soon open their eyes to the wickedness of their leaders, and work a radical reformation without bloodshed. This is my plan for resisting an internal attack; for external defence, gun-boats, and bomb-ketches, with floating batteries at the mouths of the Mississippi and the passes from Lake Ponchartrain will be necessary."

Extract of a letter from Gen. James Wilkinson, dated New-Orleans, December 18, 1806.

SIR—Since my last of the 14th inst. writs of *habeas corpus* have been issued for the bodies of Bollman, Swartwout, and Ogden, the two latter by Judge Workman, who is strongly suspected for being concerned with Burr in his conspiracy, as I have proof this man declared some time since, that "the republican, who possessed power, and did not employ it to establish a despotism, was a fool." His writ for Ogden was served on Capt. Shaw of the navy, who had him in charge at my request, on board the Etna bomb ketch, and delivered him up, and Mr. Workman discharged him without giving me a word of information, although he knew he was confined by my order for a treasonable combination with Burr, and Mr. Ogden now struts at large. Swartwout I have sent off, and shall so report, holding myself ready for consequences. Bollman was required by the superiour court, but I have got rid of that affair also, under the usual liability for damages, in which case I shall look to our country for protection."

SECOND MESSAGE.

*To the Senate and
House of Representatives of the United States.*

I RECEIVED from General Wilkinson, on the twenty third instant his affidavit, charging Samuel Swartwout, Peter V. Ogden and James Alexander, with the crimes described in the affidavit, a copy of which is now communicated to both Houses of Congress.

It was announced to me at the same time, that Swartwout and Bollman, two of the persons apprehended by him, were arrived in this city, in custody each of a military officer. I immediately delivered to the attorney of the United States, in this district, the evidence received against them, with instructions to lay the same before the judges, and apply for their process to bring the accused to justice, and I put into his hands orders to the officers having them in custody, to deliver them to the marshal on his application.

TH: JEFFERSON.

January 26, 1807.

I, James Wilkinson, brigadier-general and commander in chief of the army of the United States, to warrant the arrest of Dr. Erick Bollman on a charge of treason, misprision of treason, or such other offence against the government and laws of the U. States, as the following facts may legally charge him with—on my honour as a soldier, and on the holy evangelists of Almighty God, do declare and swear, that on the 6th day of November last, when in command at Natchitoches, I received by the hands of a Frenchman, a stranger to me, a letter from Dr. Erick Bollman, of which the following is a correct copy.

“ New-Orleans, September 27, 1806.

“ SIR—I have the honour to forward to your excellency the enclosed letters, which I was charged to deliver to you by our mutual friend. I shall remain for some time at this place, and should be glad to learn where and when I may have the pleasure of an interview with you. Have the goodness to inform me of it, and please to direct your letter to me, care of _____, or enclose it under cover to them. I have the honour with great respect, sir, your excellency's most obedient servant,

(Signed)

ERICK BOLLMAN.”

“ General Wilkinson.

Covering a communication in cypher from Col. Aaron Burr, of which the following is substantially as fair an interpretation as I have heretofore been able to make, the original of which I still hold in my possession:—I (Aaron Burr) have obtained funds and have actually commenced the enterprize—detachments from different points and under different pretences will rendezvous on the Ohio 1st November—every thing internal and external favours views.—Protection of England is secured— T— is gone to Jamaica to arrange*

* *Truston.*

with the admiral on that station, and will meet at the Mississippi—England—Navy of the United States are ready to join and final orders are given to my friends and followers—it will be an host of choice spirits—Wilkinson shall be second to Burr only—Wilkinson shall dictate the rank and promotion of his officers—Burr will proceed Westward 1st August—never to return—with him go his daughter—the husband will follow in October with a *corps of worthies*—send forth—with an intelligent and confidential friend with whom Burr may confer.—He shall return immediately with further interesting details—this is essential to concert and harmony of movement. Send a list of all persons known to Wilkinson west of the mountains, who could be useful, with a note delineating the characters. By your messenger send me four or five of the commissions of your officers, which you can borrow under any pretence you please—They shall be returned faithfully—Already are orders to the contractor given to forward six months provisions to points Wilkinson may name—this shall not be used until the last moment, and then under proper injunctions—the project is brought to the point so long desired—Burr guarantees the result with his life and honour—the lives, the honour and fortunes of hundreds, the best blood of our country—Burr's plan of operations is to move down rapidly from the falls on the 15th of November with the first 500 or 1000 men in light boats now constructing for that purpose—to be at Natchez between the 5th and 15th of December—then to meet Wilkinson—then to determine whether it will be expedient in the first instance to seize on or pass by Baton Rouge—on receipt of this send Burr an answer—draw on Burr for all expenses, &c. The people of the country to which we are going are prepared to receive us—their agents now with Burr say that if he will protect their religion and will not subject them to a foreign power, that in three weeks all will be settled. The Gods invite to glory and fortune—it remains to be seen whether we deserve the boon.—The bearer of this goes express to you—he will hand a formed letter of introduction to you from Burr, a copy of which is hereunto subjoined—he is a man of inviolable honour and perfect discretion—formed to execute rather than project—capable of relating facts with fidelity and incapable of relating them otherwise: He is thoroughly informed of the plans and intentions of _____, and will disclose to you as far as you enquire and no farther—he has imbibed a reverence for your character and may be embarrassed in your presence—put him at ease and he will satisfy you.—Doctor Bollman equally confidential, better informed on the subject and more intelligent will hand you this duplicate.—” 29th July.”

The day after my arrival at this city, the 26th of November last, I received another letter from the Doctor, of which the following is a correct copy.

New-Orleans, 25th Nov. 1806.

“SIR—Your letter of the 5th inst. has been duly received. Supposing that you will be much engaged this morning I defer waiting on your excellency till you will be pleased to inform me of the time when it will be convenient to you to see me. I remain with great respect,

“Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

(Signed)

ERICK BOLLMAN.”

His Excellency Gen. Wilkinson, Fauxbourg.

Marigny, the house between Madame Trevinge and M. Macarty.

On the 30th of the same month I waited in person on Dr. E. Bollman, when he informed me that he had not heard from Col. Burr since his arrival here—that he (said Dr. E. Bollman) had sent dispatches to Col. Burr by a Lieutenant Spence of the navy, and that he had been advised of Spence's arrival at Nashville, in the state of Tennessee—And observed that Col. Burr

had proceeded too far to retreat : that he (Col. Burr) had numerous and powerful friends in the United States, who stood pledged to support him with their fortunes, and that he must succeed. That he, the said Dr. E. Bollman, had written to Col. Burr on the subject of provisions, and that he expected a supply would be sent from New-York, and also from Norfolk, where Col. Burr had strong connexions. I did not see or hear from the Doctor again until the 5th inst. when I called on him the second time. The mail being arrived the day before, I asked him whether he had received any intelligence from Col. Burr. He informed me that he had seen a letter from Col. Burr of the 30th of October, in which he (Col. Burr) gave assurances that he should be at Natches with 2000 men on the 20th of December inst. where he should wait until he heard from this place. That he would be followed by 4000 more, and that he (Col. Burr) if he had chosen, could have raised or got 12,000 as easy as 6,000, but that he did not think that number necessary.—Confiding fully in this information. I became indifferent about further disguise. I then told the Doctor that I should most certainly oppose Col. Burr if he came this way. He replied, they must come here for equipments and shipping, and observed that he did not know what had passed between Col. Burr and myself, obliquely at a sham defence, and waved the subject.

From the documents in my possession, and the several communications, verbal as well as written, from the said Doctor Erick Bollman on this subject, I feel no hesitation in declaring under the solemn obligation of an oath, that he has committed misprision of treason against the government of the United States.

(Signed)

JAS. WILKINSON.

Signed and sworn to this 14th day of December, 1806, before me, one of the justices of the peace of this county.

(Signed)

J. CARRICK.

Philadelphia, 25 July, 1806.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Swartwout, the brother of Col. S. of New-York, being on his way down the Mississippi, and presuming he may pass you at some post on the river, has requested of me a letter of introduction, which I give with pleasure, as he is a most amiable young man, and highly respectable from his character and connexions. I pray you to afford him friendly offices, which his situation may require, and beg you to pardon the trouble which this may give you. With entire respect,

Your friend and obedient servant,

A. BURR.

His Excellency Gen. Wilkinson.

I instantly resolved to avail myself of the reference made to the bearer, and in the course of some days drew from him (the said Swartwout) the following disclosure.—“That he had been dispatched by Col. Burr from Philadelphia, had passed through the states of Ohio and Kentucky, and proceeded from Louisville for St. Louis, where he expected to find me, but discovering at Kaskaskias that I had descended the river, he procured a skiff, hired hands and followed me down the Mississippi to Fort Adams, and from thence set out for Natchitoches, in company with captains Sparks and Hooke, under the pretence of a disposition to take part in the campaign against the Spaniards, then depending. That Col. Burr, with the support of a powerful association, extending from New-York to New-Orleans, was levying an armed body of 7000 men from the state of New-York and the western states and territories, with a view to carry an expedition against the Mexican provinces, and that

300 men under Col. Swartwout, and a Col. or Major Tyler, were to descend the Alleghany, for whose accommodation light boats had been built and were ready." I enquired what would be their course; he said, "this territory would be revolutionized, where the people were ready to join them, and that there would be some seizing, he supposed, at New-Orleans; that they expected to be ready to embark about the first of February, and intended to land at Vera Cruz, and to march from thence to Mexico." I observed that there were several millions of dollars in the bank of that place; to which he replied, "We know it full well;" and on my remarking that they certainly did not mean to violate property, he said they "merely meant to borrow, and would return it; that they must equip themselves in New-Orleans; that they expected naval protection from Great Britain; that the capt. — and the officers of our navy were so disgusted with the government that they were ready to join; that similar disgusts prevailed throughout the western country, where the people were zealous in favour of the enterprize, and that pilot boat built schooners were contracted for along our southern coast for their service; that he had been accompanied from the falls of Ohio to Kaaskias, and from thence to Fort Adams, by a Mr. Ogden, who had proceeded on to New-Orleans with letters from Col. Burr to his friend there." Swartwout asked me whether I had heard from Dr. Bollman; and on my answering in the negative, he expressed great surprize, and observed, "That the doctor and a Mr. Alexander had left Philadelphia before him, with dispatches for me, and that they were to proceed by sea to New-Orleans, where he said they must have arrived."

Though determined to deceive him if possible, I could not refrain telling Mr. Swartwout it was impossible that I could dishonour my commission; and I believe I duped him by my admiration of the plan, and by observing, "That although I could not join in the expedition, the engagements which the Spaniards had prepared for me in my front, might prevent my opposing it." Yet I did the moment I had decyphered the letter, put it into the hands of Col. Cushing, my adjutant and inspector, making the declaration that I should oppose the lawless enterprize with my utmost force. Mr. Swartwout informed me he was under engagements to meet Col. Burr at Nashville the 20th of November, and requested me to write him, which I declined; and on his leaving Natchitoches about the 18th of October, I immediately employed Lieut. T. A. Smith to convey the information in substance to the President, without the commitment of names; for from the extraordinary nature of the project, and the more extraordinary appeal to me, I could but doubt its reality, notwithstanding the testimony before me, and I did not attach solid belief to Mr. Swartwout's reports respecting their intentions on this territory and city, until I received confirmatory advice from St. Louis.

After my return from the Sabine, I crossed the country to Natchez, and on my descent of the Mississippi from that place I found Swartwout and Peter V. Ogden at Fort Adams; with the latter I held no communication, but was informed by Swartwout, that he, Ogden, had returned so far from New-Orleans, on his rout to Tennessee, but had been so much alarmed by certain re-

ports in circulation that he was afraid to proceed. I enquired whether he bore letters with him from New-Orleans, and was informed by Swartwout that he did not, but that a Mr. Spence had been sent from New-Orleans through the country to Nashville, with letters for Col. Burr.

I reached this city the 25th ultimo, and on the next morning James Alexander, Esq. visited me ; he enquired of me aside whether I had seen doctor Bollman, and on my answering in the negative, he asked me whether I would suffer him to conduct Bollman to me, which I refused. He appeared desirous of communicating something, but I felt no inclination to inculcate this young man, and he left me. A few days after he paid me a second visit, and seemed desirous to communicate, which I avoided, until he had risen to take leave ; I then raised my finger, and observed, "Take care, you are playing a dangerous game ;" he answered, "It will succeed." I again observed, "Take care ;" and he replied with a strong affirmation, "Burr will be here by the beginning of next month." In addition to these corroborating circumstances against Alexander, I beg leave to refer to the accompanying documents, A. B. From all which I feel no hesitation in declaring, under a solemn obligation of an oath, that I do believe the said Swartwout, Alexander, and Ogden, have been parties to, and have been concerned in the insurrection formed or forming in the states and territories on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, against the laws and constitution of the United States.

(Signed)

JAMES WILKINSON.

Sworn to, and subscribed before me, this 26th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1806.

(Signed)

GEORGE POLLOCK,

Justice of the peace, for the county of Orleans.

DEPOSITION OF WILLIAM EATON, Esq.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Early last winter, Col. Aaron Burr, late vice-president of the United States, signified to me, at this place, that under the authority of the general government, he was organising a secret expedition against the Spanish provinces on our south-western borders ; which expedition he was to lead, and in which he was authorised to invite me to take the command of a division.—I had never before been made personally acquainted with Col. Burr ; and, having many years been employed in foreign service, I knew but little about the estimation this gentleman now held in the opinion of his countrymen and his government ; the rank and confidence by which he had so lately been distinguished, left me no right to suspect his patriotism. I knew him a soldier. In case of a war with the Spanish nation, which from the tenor of the president's message to both Houses of Congress seemed probable, I should have thought it my duty to obey so honourable a call of my country : and under that impression, I did engage to embark in the expedition. I had frequent interviews with Col. Burr in this city—and, for a considerable time, his object seemed to be to instruct me by maps, and other information, the feasibility of penetrating to Mexico—always carrying forward the idea that the measure was authorised by govern-

ment. At length, some time in February, he began by degrees to unveil himself.—He reproached the government with want of character, want of gratitude, and want of justice. He seemed desirous of irritating resentment in my breast by dilating on certain injuries he felt I had suffered from reflections made on the floor of the House of Representatives, concerning my operations in Barbary, and from the delays of government in adjusting my claims for disbursements on that coast during my consular agency at Tunis ; and he would point to me to an honourable mode of indemnity. I now began to entertain a suspicion that Mr. Burr was projecting an unauthorised military expedition ; which to me, was enveloped in mystery ; and, desirous to draw an explanation from him, I suffered him to suppose me resigned to his council. He now laid open his project of revolutionising the western country, separating it from the union, establishing a monarchy there, of which he was to be the sovereign, New-Orleans to be his capital ; organising a force on the waters of the Mississippi, and extending conquest to Mexico. I suggested a number of impediments to his scheme—such as the republican habits of the citizens of that country, and their affection towards our present administration of government ; the want of funds ; the resistance he would meet from the regular army of the U. States on those frontiers ; and the opposition of Miranda in case he should succeed to republicanise the Mexicans.

Mr. Burr found no difficulty in removing those obstacles—he said he had, the preceding season, made a tour through that country, and had secured the attachment of the principal citizens of Kentucky, Tennessee and Louisiana, to his person and his measures—declared he had inexhaustible resources to funds ; assured me the regular army would act with him, and would be reinforced by ten or twelve thousand men from the above-mentioned states and territory, and from other parts of the union ; said he had powerful agents in the Spanish territory—and, as for Miranda, said Mr. Burr, we must hang Miranda. He now proposed to give me the second command in his army. I asked him who should have the chief command ? He said *General Wilkinson*. I observed it was singular that he should count on General Wilkinson ; the elevated rank and high trust he now held as commander in chief of our army, and governour of a province, he would hardly put at hazard for any precarious prospect of aggrandizement. Mr. Burr said, General Wilkinson, balanced in the confidence of government, was doubtful of retaining much longer the consideration he now enjoyed, and was consequently prepared to secure himself a permanency.

I asked Mr. Burr if he knew General Wilkinson ? He answered yes : and echoed the question. I said I knew him well. “What do you know of him ?” said Mr. Burr.—I know I replied, that general Wilkinson will act as *Lieutenant* to no man in existence. “You are in an error,” said Mr. Burr—“*Wilkinson will act as Lieutenant to me.*” From the tenor of repeated conversations with Mr. Burr, I was induced to believe the plan of separating the union which he had contemplated had been communicated to and approved of by general Wilkinson (though I now suspect it an artful argument of seduction) and he often expressed a full confidence that the general's influence ; the offer of double pay and double rations ; the prospect of plunder and the ambition of achievement would draw the army into his measures. Mr. Burr talked of the establishment of an independent government west of the Alleghany as a matter of inherent constitutional right of the people : a change which would eventually take place, and for the operation of which the present crisis was peculiarly favourable. There was, said he, no energy in the government to be dreaded, and the divisions of political opinions throughout the union was a circumstance of which we should profit. There were very many enterprising men among us who as-

pired to something beyond the dull pursuits of civil life and who would volunteer in this enterprize, and the vast territory belonging to the United States, which offered to adventurers, and the mines of Mexico would bring strength to his standard from all quarters—I listened to the exposition of col. Burr's views with seeming acquiescence. Every interview convinced me more and more that he had organized a deep-laid plot of treason in the west, in the accomplishment of which he felt fully confident. Till at length I discovered that his ambition was not bounded by the waters of the Mississippi and Mexico, but that he meditated overthrowing the present government of our country. He said, if he could gain over the marine corps, and secure the naval commanders, Truxton, Preble, Decatur, and others, *he would turn congress neck and heels out of doors; assassinate the President; seize on the treasury and navy, and declare himself the protector of an energetic government.*

The honourable trust of corrupting the marine corps, and of sounding commodore Preble and capt. Decatur, col. Burr proposed confiding to me. Shocked at this proposition, I dropped the mask, and exclaimed against his views. He talked of the degraded situation of our country, and the necessity of a *blow* by which its energy and its dignity should be restored—said, if that blow could be struck here at this time, he was confident of the best blood of America. I told col. Burr he deceived himself in presuming that he, or any other man could excite a party in this country who would countenance him in such a plot of desperation, murder, and treason. He replied, that he, perhaps, knew better the dispositions of the influential citizens of this country than I did. I told him one solitary word would destroy him. He asked, what word? I answered, *Usurper!* He smiled at my hesitation, and quoted some great examples in his favour. I observed to him, that I had lately travelled from one extreme of the union to the other; and though I found a diversity of political opinion among the people they appeared united at the most distant aspect of national danger. That, for the section of the union to which I belonged, I would vouch, should he succeed in the first instance here, he would within six weeks afterward have his throat cut by Yankee militia.

Though wild and extravagant Mr. Burr's last project, and though fraught with premeditated slaughter, I felt very easy on the subject, because its defeat he had deposited in my own hands. I did not feel so secure concerning that of disjoining the union. But the very interesting and embarrassing situation in which his communications placed me, left me, I confess, at a stand to know how to conduct myself with propriety. He had committed no overt act of aggression against law.—I could draw nothing from him in writing; nor could I learn that he had exposed his plans to any person near me by whom my testimony could be supported. He had mentioned to me no persons who were principally and decidedly engaged with him, except general Wilkinson—a Mr. Alston, who I found was his son-in-law—and a Mr. Ephraim Kibby, late a captain of rangers in Gen. Wayne's army.

Satisfied that Mr. Burr was resolute in pushing his project of rebellion in the west of the Alleghany, and apprehensive that it was too well and too extensively organized to be easily suppressed—though I dreaded the weight of his character when laid in the balance against my solitary assertion, I brought myself to the resolution to endeavour to defeat it by getting him removed from among us, or to expose myself to all consequences by a disclosure of his intentions.

Accordingly, I waited on the President of the United States, and after some desultory conversation, in which I aimed to draw his view to the westward, I used the freedom to say to the President I thought Mr. Burr should

be sent out of the country—and gave for reason, that I believed him dangerous in it. The President asked where he should be sent? I mentioned London and Cadiz. The President thought the trust too important, and seemed to entertain a doubt of Mr. Burr's integrity. I intimated that no one, perhaps, had stronger grounds to mistrust Mr. Burr's moral integrity than myself; yet, I believed, ambition so much predominated over him that, when placed on an eminence and put on his honour, respect to himself would ensure his fidelity:—His talents were unquestionable. I perceived the subject was disagreeable to the President; and to give it the shortest course to the point, declared my concern that if Mr. Burr were not in some way disposed of, we should, within eighteen months, have an insurrection, if not a revolution, on the waters of the Mississippi. The President answered, that he had too much confidence in the information, the integrity, and the attachment to the union of the citizens of that country to admit an apprehension of the kind: I am happy that events prove this confidence well placed. As no interrogatories followed my expression of alarm, I thought silence on the subject, at that time and place, became me.

But I detailed about the same time, the whole project of Mr. Burr to certain members of Congress. They believed Col. Burr capable of any thing—and agreed that the fellow ought to be hanged; but thought his projects too chimerical and his circumstances too desperate to give the subject the merit of serious consideration. The total security of feeling in those to whom I had rung the tocsin induced me to suspect my own apprehensions unseasonable, or at least too deeply admitted: and of course, I grew indifferent about the subject.

Mr. Burr's visits to me became less frequent, and his conversation less familiar. He appeared to have abandoned the idea of a general revolution; but seemed determined on that of the Mississippi—and, although I could perceive symptoms of distrust in him towards me, he manifested great solicitude to engage me with him in the enterprize. Weary of his importunity, and at once to convince him of my serious attachments, I gave the following toast to the publick:—

“THE UNITED STATES—Palsey to the brain that should plot to dismember, and leprosy to the hand that will not draw to defend our union!”

I doubt whether the sentiment was better understood by any of my acquaintance than by Colonel Burr. Our intercourse ended here—we met but seldom afterward. I returned to my farm in Massachusetts, and thought no more of Mr. Burr nor his empire, till sometime late in September or beginning of October, when a letter from Morris Belknap, of Marietta, to Timothy E. Danielson, fell into my hands at Brimfield, which satisfied me that Mr. Burr had actually commenced his preparatory operations on the Ohio. I now spoke publicly of the fact, transmitted a copy of the letter from Belknap to the department of state, and about the same time forwarded through the hands of the post-master-general to the President of the U. States, a statement in substance, of what is here above detailed concerning the Mississippi conspiracy of Col. A. Burr—which is said to have been the first formal intelligence received by the executive on the subject of the conspirator being in motion.

I know not whether my country will allow me the merit of correctness of conduct in this affair. The novelty of the duty might, perhaps, have embarrassed stronger minds than mine. The uprightness of my intentions, I hope, will not be questioned.

The interviews between col. Burr and myself, from which the foregoing statement has resulted, were chiefly in this city, in the months of February and March, last year.

Washington City, Jan. 26.

Sworn to in open court this 26th of Jan. 1807.

WILLIAM EATON.

WM. BRENT, Clerk.

 DEPOSITION OF JAMES L. DONALDSON.

In open court personally appears James Lowry Donaldson, who being duly sworn, deposes and saith that he was in the city of New-Orleans, in the Orleans territory, and the environs of said city, from the 15th of October to the 10th day of December, 1806—that during the latter part of this time he was frequently in the company of General James Wilkinson, and visited the General the day after his arrival at New-Orleans. On this occasion this deponent received in confidence from General Wilkinson information to the following purport—That the General had undoubted and indisputable evidence of a treasonable design formed by Aaron Burr and others to dismember the union by a separation of the western states and territories from the Atlantic states—that New-Orleans was in immediate danger, and that he had concluded a hasty compromise with the Spaniards, so as to be able to withdraw his troops instantly to this the immediate object of attack and great vulnerable point—That he had received a letter from Burr holding forth great inducements to him to become a party, of which he shewed me the original in cypher, and another written paper purporting to be a decyphered copy of the letter. He expressed great indignation at the plot, and surprize that one so well acquainted with him as Burr should dare to make to him so degrading a proposal, and declared his determination of defeating the enterprize, or perishing in the attempt. He observed in addition that there were many agents of Mr. Burr then in the town, who had already been assiduous in their visits, and towards whom he was determined to act with cautious ambiguity, so as at the same time to become possessed of the whole extent of the plan, the persons engaged, and the time of its execution, and also to prevent any attempt on his person, of which he declared he had serious apprehensions. Of the number of these agents he was not aware, but mentioned the names of two, of whom he was certain, Messrs. Bollman and Alexander. From time to time, as this deponent had interviews with General Wilkinson, he informed this deponent that he had received additional information respecting the movements and designs of Burr by means of these agents, of whom he considered Bollman as the principal. In the course of these transactions, this deponent was employed by General Wilkinson in the copying of certain papers and documents, and preparing certain dispatches for the general government, which the General intended to forward by the brig Thetis. While thus employed at the General's lodgings, this deponent has remarked, upon two different occasions, a person knock for admittance at a door with a window in it, opposite the table where this deponent was sitting, who, this deponent was informed by General Wilkinson, was Dr. Bollman. Upon these occasions the General had suddenly risen from his seat, and accompanied this person in a number of turns up and down a balcony in the front of the house, apparently engaged in deep conversation. Upon the latter of these occasions the General on his return into the chamber said to this deponent, "that is Dr. Bollman, his infatuation is truly extraordinary, he persists in his belief that I am with Burr, and has this moment shewn me a letter from the latter, in which he says that he is to be at Natchez on the 20th December with two thousand men, that 4000 will follow in the course of a few days, and that he could with the same ease, have procured double that number." General Wilkinson then observed that he had obtained all the information he wanted, and that the affair would not be kept much longer a secret from the publick.

When this deponent left the city of New-Orleans, the inhabitants of that city were in a state of great alarm, and apprehended a serious attack from Mr. Burr and his confederates: this deponent understood that mercantile business was much embarrassed and great fears were entertained of considerable commercial failures in consequence of the embargo which had been imposed—that General Wilkinson was taking strong measures of defence and that four hundred persons were then actually engaged in the fortifications of the city.

And further this deponent saith not.

JAMES L. DONALDSON.

Sworn to in open court

January 26, 1807.

Wm. BRENT, Clerk.

DEPOSITION OF Lt. W. WILSON.

I left New-Orleans on my way to this city on the 15th of December last; at that time, and for some time preceding, the strongest apprehensions and belief universally prevailed among the inhabitants of that city, that Aaron Burr and his confederates had prepared an armed force, and were advancing to attack and plunder the city; in consequence of which the greatest alarms prevailed, a general stagnation of business, and the danger was credited there as a matter of publick notoriety:—That brigadier general Wilkinson, with the army of the U. S. was at New-Orleans, occupied in the most active military preparations for the defence of the place; repairing the forts, mounting cannon, collecting ammunition, &c. all under the firm persuasion and belief that such an attack was meditated, and about very speedily to take place by the said Burr and his confederates; this deponent knows that the general was decidedly of opinion, from the most satisfactory information, that the said Burr and his confederates were advancing with an armed force against the place—and further this deponent saith not.

Signed,

Wm. WILSON.

Sworn to in open court this

27th day of Jan. 1807.

Wm. BRENT, Clerk.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives
of the United States.*

I communicate, for the information of Congress, a letter from Cowles Meade, secretary of the Mississippi territory, to the secretary of war, by which it will be seen that Mr. Burr had reached that neighbourhood on the 13th of January.

TH: JEFFERSON.

February 10, 1807.

*Extract of a letter from Cowles Meade, secretary and acting governor of the
Mississippi territory, to the department of war, dated*

SIR,

WASHINGTON, M. T. January 13, 1807.

I have just time by the mail to inform you that I received this morning a letter from col. Burr, at Bayou Pierre, avowing the innocence of his views and the fallacy of certain rumours against his patriotism. His object is agriculture, and his boats are the vehicles of emigration. However, se-

veral military corps were ordered to be on the alert, and apprehend him and all suspicious persons on the day before the reception of this letter : these orders may possibly bring him into my possession. In his letter he hints at resistance to any attempt to coerce him, and deprecates a civil war. These hints will have no influence on my conduct. He will be apprehended, if possible, at the hazard of the lives of our militia, and the honour of the executive. We are all bustle and activity. I hope in a day or two to give you a better account of this troublesome man.

A boat passed Natchez last night ; was hailed and pursued by the guard ; they fired two guns at the pursuers, and made their escape, being better manned.

The citizens of this country are republicans and patriots, and on their exertions I have every reliance.

Extract of a letter from Cowles Meade, secretary and acting governor of the Mississippi territory, to the department of war, dated

SIR,

WASHINGTON, M. T. Jan. 19, 1807.

“ In obedience to your instructions by express of 20th of December last, I immediately, after proroguing the legislature, proceeded to put the territory in a state of preparation for the arrestation of the suspicious persons and boats, which were contemplated therein ; my militia were collecting at particular points on the river, when I received a letter from col. Burr, who had landed at Bayou Pierre, with 9 boats and about 100 men. This letter went to an avowal of his innocence of the charges, which rumour and publick apprehension had announced against him, and solicited me to appease the fears which his approach had begotten ; at the same time he guarded me against the horrors of a civil war, and the evils resulting from such a state of things ; this seeming threat induced me to adopt a different mode of conduct, from what the colonel might have expected ; and instead of adopting his pacifick admonition, I ordered a very large portion of the militia of the territory to rendezvous at certain points and wait further orders. With the promptitude of Spartans, our fellow citizens shouldered their firelocks, and in twenty-four hours I had the honour to review 375 men at Natchez, prepared to defend their country. They were ordered, under the command of col. Claiborn, to a point on the river about 21 miles above the city, there to remain to guard the river, and intercept, for inspection, all boats that might descend the river. On the 16th, I dispatched two of my aids to col. Burr, who had tendered his respect to the civil authority ; these gentlemen engaged on my part to give the colonel an interview in the neighbourhood of the detachment stationed at the mouth of Cole's creek. Conformably thereto I met the colonel on the 17th, and after a lengthy interview, he offered to surrender himself to the civil authority of the territory, and to suffer his boats to be searched. On the 18th, col. Burr, accompanied by my aids, majors Shields and Poindexter, rode down to the place, and was committed to the highest tribunal of the civil authority, where he now remains for trial.

Four gentlemen of unquestionable respectability, with a detachment of 30 men, are now in the act of making the search of the boats, and to-morrow I expect their report.

Thus sir, this mighty alarm with all its exaggerations, has eventuated in nine boats and one hundred men, and the major part of these are boys, or young men just from school. Many of their depositions have been taken before judge Rodney, but they bespeak ignorance of the views or designs of the colonel. I believe them really ignorant and deluded. I believe that they are the dupes of stratagem, if the asseverations of generals Eaton and Wilkinson are to be accredited.”

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AN ACCOUNT OF A VOYAGE

Up the Mississippi river, from St. Louis to its source; made under the orders of the War Department, by Lieut. PIKE, of the United States army, in the years 1805 and 1806. Compiled from Mr. Pike's journal.

ON the 9th of August, 1805, the exploring party, consisting of lieut. Pike, one serjeant, two corporals and seventeen privates, left their encampment near St. Louis in a keel boat, seventy feet long, provisioned for four months; in order to make a survey of the river Mississippi to its source.

The Mississippi river makes a remarkable bend immediately above the mouth of the Missouri: and, where it receives the waters of the Illinois, that river might be mistaken for a branch or part of the principal stream. The land on the east side appears hilly, rocky and barren; the opposite side is low and flat, over which the Sioux portage passes between the Mississippi and the Missouri rivers. Near the mouth of the Illinois river is the big cave; above it the river turns to the southward in order to pass round some rocky hills, or a bluff, one hundred feet in height, beyond which it has a north westerly direction to the mouth of Buffaloe, or Boeuf river, running in from the west. Five miles farther, on the eastern side, is a beautiful cedar cliff; above which, the river is nearly two miles in width. Some islands, which occur at this place, having their lower ends, nearly in a line, received from the party the appellation of the Four Brothers. The first hills which appear on the west side, are some distance below Salt river; the land on that side, from Boeuf river changes its quality from low and rich, with cotton wood growing thereon, to a light soil, as it approaches the hills. On the other side a handsome rocky bluff had been passed, and high lands are observable back from the river.

Salt river is a considerable stream, and in high water is navigable for boats, at least 200 miles above its mouth.

About 150 miles from the Missouri, is the house of a French settler, situated on the west side of the river, opposite to Hurricane island. His cattle appeared in fine order, but his cornfields were badly cultivated. A mile above this house there is a beautiful hill, level on the top, with an easy ascent on each side, and a fountain of fine water. Five miles from the Hurricane settlement, Jauflione creek falls in from the west; and about twenty miles farther, two rivers on the same side; the northernmost of which is the Wyaconda, one hundred yards in width. The Mississippi is here a mile and a half wide. Several islands present themselves immediately above this place. Seventy-five miles above the Frenchman's, and two hundred and thirty-two from the Missouri, the riviere des Moines comes in from the north west. The width of the Mississippi is here three-fourths of a mile,

Immediately above the confluence of the riviere des Moines with the Mississippi, the falls or rapids of that name commence. These rapids extend eleven miles up the river, are formed by successive ledges, or shoals, which cross its bed. The first fall is the most difficult to ascend: the channel which is a bad one, is on the east side at the two first falls, after which, it crosses to the west, and continues near that shore, to the Sac village. Here the United States have an agent (Mr. William Ewing) appointed to instruct this nation in agriculture. The country on both sides of the river at these rapids is hilly, but the soil is rich. This establishment is in latitude 30 deg. 32 min. north.

Thirty-five miles above the establishment at the Sac village, a very handsome site for a garrison presents itself on the west bank of the river. The channel passes close under the hill, which is about sixty feet in perpendicular height; the top of the hill is level for about four hundred yards; and, in the rear, there is a prairie of eight or ten acres well adapted for gardens. This hill commands an extensive prospect, over a large prairie on the east side of the river, on which is scattered a few small groves of trees. At the foot of the hill, from a limestone rock, issues a spring which would afford an ample supply of water to a regiment of men. The landing is bold and safe; and a road for a team to ascend the hill, may be easily made at the south end. This hill continues about two miles; it covered with black and white oak, and gives rise to five springs in that distance.

On the morning of the 27th, the party reached the mouth of Rock river, ninety-eight miles above the site mentioned as proper for a military post. In this distance they passed a large prairie, called the half way to the prairie des Chiens, and several sand banks, on the east: the Jowa village and creek is on the opposite side. Islands occur very frequently in the river along its whole course. The country on each side is prairie or covered with timber, alternately. Near the mouth of Rock river, in a large prairie on the east side, stands the largest village of Sac Indians. Just above the Rock river, the rapids of that name commence; formed by a series of rocks which in some places cross the river from shore to shore. These rapids extend about eighteen miles along the river: they afford more water than the rapids of la riviere des Moines, but are more rapid and difficult to pass. A few miles up the river than the rapids, the first village of the Reynards is situated on its west bank.

The lead mines which belong to Monsieur Dubuque, are on the west side of the Mississippi, about one hundred and twenty miles above the first village of the Foxes. The dwelling house of the proprietor is near the Mississippi, but the mines are about six miles from it, in a south west direction. In disposition prevented Mr. Pike from visiting these mines, as he had proposed.

Near the mouth of the Turkey river, on which another village of the Fox Indians is situated, the exploring party of the United States met a war party of Indians consisting of Sacs, Reynards, and Puants, returning. They appeared anxious to avoid the Americans: indeed great pains seem to have been taken to impress on the minds of all the Indians in this quarter, that we are a vindictive, ferocious and warlike people. Although these impressions seem to have been made with evil intentions towards us, they will have a contrary effect when the Indians find our conduct towards them to be magnanimous and just: reverence will then be joined with fear, in estimating the American character. These Indians stated, that they had been as high as lake Pepin, without effecting any thing.

The mouth of the Ouiconsin river, which enters the Mississippi from the east, is in latitude 43 deg. 44 min. 8 sec. N. In the fork made by these rivers, and above the Ouiconsin, is the prairie des Chiens, backed by a high ridge of hills. Gayard and Yellow rivers enter the Mississippi on the west side opposite to this prairie.

At the village of the prairie des Chiens, the exploring party were received with attention by captain Fisher and Mr. Frazer. Accompanied by judge Fisher, Mr. Frazer and Mr. Wood, lieutenant Pike ascended the hill on the - - - side of the Mississippi, and made choice of an eligible site for a fort: it was level on the top, had a spring in the rear, and commanded a view of the surrounding country. He designated the spot by marking four trees with the letters A, B, C, and D, and squared the sides of one in the center. On the day following (the 6th of September), he held a council with a small number of the Puants, and a chief of the lower band of the Sioux visited

and laid out the position of a hill called the Petit Gris, near the Ouiconsin, and three miles above its mouth. At the village of the prairie de Chiens, they changed their large boat for others better adapted to the prosecution of their voyage. The party here received an addition to their number of two interpreters; one of which was to go as far as the falls of St. Anthony, and paid by Mr. Frazer; the other was engaged for the whole distance. Mr. Frazer, who was going on a trading expedition, to winter with some of the bands of Sioux, also embarked with them.

While encamped about five miles below the river Jowa, on the 10th of September, Le Feuille, a chief of the Sioux, (and the same they had met at the village of the prairie des Chiens) who reside on this river, sent six of his young men to inform Mr. Pike "that he had waited three days with meat, &c. but that last night his people had began to drink: that, on the next day, he would meet him with his people." Mr. Frazer and one of the interpreters returned with an answer to the Indians,—"that if the weather permitted the party must pass on, as the season was far advanced."

Mr. Frazer on his return stated, that the chief acquiesced in the reason for proceeding, but he had prepared a pipe (instead of a letter) to present to Mr. Pike, that he might shew it to all the other bands of the Sioux above, with a message to inform them of his being a chief of his new father; and that he wished him to be treated with friendship and respect. When the party arrived opposite to the lodges, the Indians were paraded on the bank with their guns: they fired a salute, with what might be termed three rounds of ball: it was returned from the boats. This mode of saluting might have been less agreeable to others than to soldiers, as the Indians had been drinking, and seemed desirous of shewing how near to the boats they could shoot without injuring them. Mr. Pike went ashore armed with pistols, and his sword, in order to accompany the chief; but, as a mark of confidence in the Indians, he caused such of his party as accompanied him to leave their arms behind, where centinels were placed to guard the boats. At the lodge of the chief, he found a clean mat and pillow to sit upon; the pipe was laid before him on crutches, while the chief placed himself on the right hand, and the interpreter with Mr. Frazer on the left. After smoking, the chief addressed Mr. Pike nearly as follows: "Notwithstanding I saw you at the prairie, I am happy to take you by the hand among my own people, and let my young men see the respect due to their new father. When at Saint Louis in the spring, my father told me, if I looked down the river I should see one of his young warriors coming up. I now find it true; and am happy to see one who knows that the Great Spirit is the Father of all,—both the white and the red people: If one die, the other cannot live long! I have never been at war with our new father; and hope always to preserve the same good understanding with him that now exists. I now present you with a pipe, to shew to the upper bands, in token of our good understanding, that they may see my work, and imitate my conduct to you.

"I went to St. Louis on a shameful visit:—to carry a murderer. You gave the man his life: I am thankful for it.—I have provided something for you to eat; but, perhaps you cannot eat it: if so give it to your young men."

To this speech Mr. Pike replied, "that although at the prairie he had told the chief his business up the Mississippi, he would again relate it." He then stated the objects to which his attention was directed, with regard to the Indians, who had by the cession of Louisiana by Spain, come under the care of the United States; the different posts proposed to be established for supplying them with necessaries, where the agents of the government might hear and attend to their wants, and endeavour to make peace between the Sioux and the Sauteurs. And that it was probable, on his return, he should have some of the Sauteurs with him, and would also take some of

their chiefs to Saint Louis, where they might settle the differences existing between their nations, and put an end to their long and bloody wars. He accepted the pipe with pleasure, as the gift of a great man* and a brother : that it should be as he wished.

Mr. Pike then partook of the dinner which was provided for him, consisting of wild rye and venison, and sent four large bowls of it to the men who accompanied him. After dinner he went to see one of their dances. It was a curious performance. The men and women danced indiscriminately. They were all dressed in their gayest manner ; each of them holding a small skin of some kind in their hands. They frequently ran up to, pointed their skin, and puffed with their breath, or blew at each other. The person thus blown on, whether man or woman, would instantly fall, and appear almost lifeless, or in great agony,—would recover slowly, rise, and again join in the dance. This is called their great medicine ; or, as Mr. Pike construes the word,—the dance of religion. The bystanders actually believe, that something is puffed or blown into each other's body, which produces the falling and other effects which take place. All the Indians are not of the initiated. They must first make presents of forty or fifty dollars value to the society, and give a feast when they are admitted with great ceremony. Mr. Frazer said he was once in a lodge with some young men, when one of these dancers entered : they immediately threw their blankets over him, and forced him out. On his laughing at them, the young Indians called him a fool, and said he did not know what the dancer could blow into his body !

On returning to the boat, Mr. Pike sent for the chief, and presented him with two carboys of tobacco, four knives, half a pound of vermilion, and a quart of salt. Mr. Frazer having asked permission to present them some rum, it was agreed to, and a keg of eight gallons was made up between them. He informed the chief, that he dared not give it without the permission of Mr. Pike. The chief then thanked Mr. Pike for his presents, and said they must come free, as he did not ask for them : to which the latter replied, that, " to those who did not ask for any thing he gave freely, but to those who asked for much, he gave only a little, or none."

During the time which Mr. Pike was at the Indian camp he had soldiers placed to keep the crowd from his boats :—a duty they discharged with vigilance, driving back the women, children and men, whenever they approached. When leaving these Indians, their warriors said, that, as Mr. Pike had shaken hands with their chief, they must, with his soldiers ;—a request he willingly complied with.

The party embarked about three o'clock, and ascended the river about three miles that evening ; when they were overtaken by Mr. Frazer, who had tarried a little longer at the village with his petogues.

This part of the river is about two miles wide, and full of islands : it shews hills, or prairie knobs, on both sides. Opposite to Root river they passed the prairie la Crose, (so called from a game of ball played frequently upon it by the Sioux Indians.) This is a handsome prairie, and has a small square hill upon it, similar to those mentioned by Carver. Its rear is bounded by hills, in the same manner as the prairie des Chiens. On this prairie there are holes dug by the Sioux when in expectation of an attack ; in which they first put their women and children, and afterwards crawl themselves. These holes are generally round, and about ten feet in diameter ; but some are half moons, and quite a least work. The latter are the chief's work, and the principal redoubts. The manner of constructing them is this : the moment they apprehend, or discover an enemy, they commence digging with their knives, tomahawks, and a wooden ladle ; and, in an incredible

* He is chief of four bands.

short space of time, will make a hole sufficiently deep to secure themselves and family from the balls or arrows of the enemy. The Indians have no idea of taking these subterraneous redoubts by storm, as many men might be lost in the attack, which, even if successful, would be considered as an imprudent act.

On the 13th of September the party passed the mouth of Black river, entering the Mississippi from the east. It is of considerable size, and Indian traders have wintered 120 miles up it. A little distance above, and where the river of the mountain enters, there is a hill in the Mississippi, which the French term "the mountain which soaks in the river." Here they met the remainder of the war party of the Sacs and Reynolds returning from their expedition against the Sauteurs. The interpreter enquired what number of scalps they had taken: their reply was, none. Passing the mountain in the river, the party stopped on the west side, at the prairie L'Aile, when Mr. Pike, Mr. Frazer and Mr. Sparks, went on shore to hunt. Crossing a dry flat prairie they ascended the hills, from which the prospect was very beautiful. On the right was the mountains passed in the morning, and the prairie in the rear, also the mountains of the prairie la Crose, appearing like distant clouds. On the left, and under their feet was the valley through which the Mississippi flows between two barren hills, as far as the eye can distinguish. The river is divided into numerous channels by beautiful islands. After passing a very thick bottom, fording and swimming three branches of the river, and crossing several morasses, they reached the boats. Signs of elk were frequent, but they were not fortunate enough to meet with any, although those in the boats had seen three. The next day they passed the river Embaras, and L'Eau Clair which enter on the west side, and in the evening stopped opposite to Buffalo river, running in from the north east. The first of these rivers is navigable 135 miles, and the last, at the head of which the Chipeways reside, is navigable for perogues, for 43 or 50 leagues.

At noon, on the 16th of September they reached the grand encampment, below Lake Pepin: and in the evening, passed the Sautiaux river, which flows in from the east at the entrance of the lake. They continued to sail in the evening, with the intention of crossing the lake. The interpreter (Roseau) said he had passed this lake twenty times, but never in the day time; alleging as a reason, that the wind frequently rose and detained them in the day time on the lake. It is more probable, however, that the true reason why the traders generally sail through it in the night is, their fear of the Sauteurs, as they have made several war strokes at the mouth of this river, without distinguishing between the Sioux and their traders.

The exploring party entered the lake with music playing; but the sky soon clouded, and, from the agitation of the water, they had to seek a harbour for the night on the east side. The next morning they were assailed by a tremendous storm: the perpendicular lightning seemed to roll in balls of fire down the steep hills which border the lake, and it required great exertions to weather the point de Sable. Here they found a Mr. Cameron, with one wooden and three bark canoes, who had sailed from the prairie on the 5th. His canoes were unladen, and turned up for the habitations of the men. His party exhibited all the indifference of Indian traders. Here they were shewn a point of rocks from which a Sioux woman precipitated herself, and was dashed to pieces on the stones below. Her friends had refused her the husband of her choice, and intended to marry her to one whom she despised. She sung her death song, ascended the hill, and, before her friends came up with her, took the lover's leap; and ended her distress and life together. At the mouth of Canoe river, they met with a band of Sioux, under the command of the ~~Agewing~~, the second chief of the nation. He made

a speech, and presented Mr. Pike with a pipe, pouch, and buffaloe skin. They encamped opposite to the Indians, on an island in the river, the chief having promised to accompany them to the river St. Peter. He appeared to be a sensible man ; saluted the party, and received a small present.

They reached the St. Croix river, at noon on the 19th, and in the evening encamped on a prairie on the east side of the river, where stands a large painted stone. On the morning of the 21st, they arrived at the Sioux village, situated at the head of an island and just below a ledge of rocks. It was unpeopled, the Indians being absent. Two miles higher, they saw three bears cross the river. Here was another camp of Sioux, consisting of four lodges ; they saw but one man, named the Black Soldier. The garrulity of the women was astonishing, since at all the other camps they had been silent ; here they flocked round the strangers, all talking together, which could only be accounted for by the absence of the men.

Three miles below the mouth of St. Peter's river, they passed the encampment of Mr. Ferrebault, who had broken his perogue. The Mississippi was so narrow in this day's course, that they crossed it in a batteaux with forty strokes of the oars. The water of the Mississippi, above lake Pepin, appears red, and where deep, nearly as black as ink. The water flowing in from the St. Peters, and St. Croix rivers, give it a blue appearance for a considerable distance below their confluence.

Observing a white flag on shore, they landed and found it to be of white silk : it was suspended over a scaffold, on which lay four dead bodies : two were enclosed in boards, and two in bark. They were wrapped up in blankets which appeared yet new. They were the bodies of Sioux women, a child of one of them, and some other relative. Some of them had died on the St. Peter's, others on the St. Croix, but were brought and deposited on this scaffold together. It is the mode in which the Sioux bury those of their people who die a natural death : but those who are killed, are suffered to lie unburied. As a corroboration of this information Mr. Pike relates, that on the hills below the St. Croix he found the bones of a man which he supposed had been killed on the spot.

Before the party reached the mouth of St. Peter's river, they were overtaken by Mr. Frazer and his perogues, who had been left behind at the head of lake Pepin with Mr. Cameron. A short time afterwards, the Petit Corbeau, at the head of his band, arrived with about 150 warriors. They honored Mr. Pike with a salute, in the Indian manner, with ball ! after which it was agreed that a council should be held on the day following. Messrs. Pike and Frazer took a bark canoe, and went up St. Peter's river, to the Indian village, to see Mr. Camcron : he engaged to be at the council the next day. The current of St. Peter's river is very gentle.

The Sioux had marched on a war excursion, but being informed, by express, of the arrival of the United States party, they returned by land. When at the village they were hospitably received, and bawled and halloed after, to enter every lodge to eat. On their return, they found their men and the Indians peaceably encamped.

The council was held on the 23d, under a bower or shed, formed of the sails of the boats, on the beach, by the orders of Mr. Pike. Into it, only his gentlemen, (the traders) and the chiefs entered. He addressed them in a speech of considerable length ; the principal subject of which was, the desire of obtaining from them a grant of lands at this place (the falls of St. Anthony,) and at St. Croix ; and, the making peace between them and the Chipeways. He was replied to by the Fils de Penichon, Le Petit Corbeau, and L'Original levé. They gave the land required, 100,000 acres, and promised a safe passport for him, and any chiefs he might bring down ; but spoke doubtfully respecting the peace. Mr. Pike then gave them presents

to the value of two hundred dollars. After the council was over, he permitted the traders to present them with some liquor ; which, with what he furnished, made about sixty gallons. In an hour afterwards, they were all embarked for their respective villages. The chiefs in the council were Le Petit Corbeau,—he signed the grant ; Le Fils de Penichon—he also signed ; Le Grand Partisan, L' Orignal levé, Le Bucasse, and Le Bœuf que Marche. It was somewhat difficult to obtain their signatures to the grant, as they conceived their word of honor sufficient, Mr. Pike having to represent to them, that it was not on their account, but his, that the signing was required.

An accident happened here which, for a short time, was likely to disturb their harmony. The morning after the council was held, Mr. Pike missed his flag ; which had either been stolen, or had fallen over board. He sent for L' Orignal levé, and in his presence punished the guard for his negligence, and sent a party three miles down the river in search of the flag, to shew his anger at the loss. In the night, however, he was awakened by Le Petit Corbeau, who had come from his village to see if any accident had befallen the party, as the flag had been found floating three miles below their village (15 miles from St. Peters) having concluded from this circumstance, that some affray had taken place, in which the flag had been thrown over board. Although the loss of the flag had been considered an unfortunate circumstance it proved the means of preventing an effusion of blood. A chief, called the Outarde Blanche, who had got his lip cut off, came to the Petit Corbeau in his village, and told him " his face was his looking glass ; it was spoiled, and he was determined on revenge." Accordingly both parties were charging their guns, when the lost flag of the United States appeared in the midst of them. They were all astonished to see it there, with the staff broken.

Petit Corbeau spoke to this effect. " A thing so sacred had not been taken from the boat without violence. It would be proper for them to hush their private animosities until they had revenged the cause of their eldest brother. He would immediately go up to St. Peter's to know what dogs had done the thing, and take steps to get satisfaction from those who had done it." They all listened to this reasoning ; immediately put the flag to dry, and embarked for the camp of the United States party. Mr. Pike gave him five yards of blue stroud, three yards of calico, a handkerchief, a carrot of tobacco, and a knife, in order to have the peace made up with the Outarde Blanche. He promised to send the flag to the falls, and make up the matter with his antagonist.

Whilst detained by the loss of his flag, Mr. Pike sent a flag and two carrots of tobacco, by Mr. Cameron, to the Sioux, on the head of the St. Peter's ; made a draft of the place, and, dispatched the boat he had obtained from Mr. Fisher at the village of the prairie des Chiens, to the village of the Saint Peters, to be exchanged for a barge with Mr. Duncan. The boat thus obtained, was a fine light vessel, eight men being able to carry her.

After much labour and fatigue in getting the boat through the rapids, they reached the foot of the falls of Saint Anthony on the evening of the 26th, and began to carry their loading over the portage, to where Mr. Pike had pitched his tent above the shoot. The rapids below the shoot may properly be called a continuation of the falls of Saint Anthony : they deserve the appellation of falls equally with those of the Delaware and Schuykill. The lost flag was brought to them at this place by two young Indians.

While the men were at work transporting the barge over the portage, and three-fourths of a mile distant from the camp where they had left their arms, seven Indians, painted black, appeared on the height near them. They proved to be a part of the Sioux war party, who were too obstinate to return when the others came in. They were better armed than the Indians

generally are : having guns, bows, arrows, war-clubs and spears, and some of them pistols. As they made their appearance when the men of the party were taking a refreshing dram, Mr. Pike handed some to the Indian. The first emptied the cup, which was presented to him, which proved a caution as to the quantity to be given to the others. The interpreter was sent with them to the camp, as Mr. Pike wished to purchase one of their war-clubs made of elk's horn, and decorated with inlaid work ;—also a set of their bows and arrows. But the liquor beginning to operate, the Indian to whom they belonged, came back to the party for Mr. Pike. On his refusing to go until the boat was got over the portage, the Indian was probably offended, as he borrowed a canoe and crossed the river. After getting their boat nearly to the top of the hill, the props gave way, and she slid down to the bottom, but without injuring any person.

The day following, the large boat was got over the portage ; after which, the men gave a very decisive proof of their fatigue, by throwing themselves down to sleep, instead of getting supper. Six of the men out of twenty-two, were at this time sick.

The proper time for performing the voyage up the Mississippi appears to be,—to leave the Illinois as soon as the ice breaks up ; but, if deferred even to June, it may be performed with great certainty ; for then the water in the river would be sufficiently high.

If it is ever possible to pass these falls in high water, which is a doubtful thing, it must be done on the eastern side, about thirty yards from the shore ; where the fall is formed by three layers of rocks, one below the other : the pitch of none of which appears higher than five feet.

Above the falls, for forty or fifty miles, the navigation is much impeded by shoals and ripples ; and would be considered impracticable by persons not determined to proceed ; for the men must wade, and push the boat along, a great portion of the distance. Below Crow river, they killed an animal unknown to Mr. Pike, called a Blaireau.

Opposite to the mouth of Crow river they found a bark canoe cut to pieces by tomahawks, and the paddles broken on shore. They continued to meet with the wrecks of canoes as they ascended,—eight in the whole. From the form of these canoes, the interpreter supposed them to be Sioux ; and some broken arrows found with them, he pronounced to be Sauteurs. These circumstances led to the conclusion that the canoes had belonged to a party of Sioux, who had been attacked by the Sauteurs, and all either killed or taken. The interpreter was alarmed lest they might be attacked by the Chipeways, under the supposition of being Sioux traders, before an explanation could take place ; three Frenchmen whom they had caught ashore near this place, having been killed the last spring. Notwithstanding this caution, Mr. Pike was frequently on shore in pursuit of game, which had become more plentiful since passing the falls of St. Anthony, than it was below. Elk, bear, racoons, pheasants, geese and prairie hens, were frequently met with.

On the 5th of October they passed several old Sioux encampments, all of which were fortified ; they found five litters on which the sick, or wounded had been carried. A hard battle had been fought here between the Sioux and Sauteurs, in the present year. On the next day when hunting, Mr. Pike found a small red capot, hung on a tree : this the interpreter said was an offering to the Bon Dieu.

On the morning of the 10th they reached the place where Mr. Rienville and Monsr. Perlier wintered in 1797. Above it is a cluster of more than twenty islands in the course of four miles, which they named the Beaver islands from the great signs of those animals which were exhibited, there being dams on every island, and roads from them every two or three rods.

In the evening they arrived at the grand rapids. These falls are dangerous and difficult to pass, from the inequality in the depth of the water, and number of rocks. The boats must be lifted over rocks not covered by one foot of water, while the next step plunges the boatman over his head. The boats frequently swing on these rocks, to the great hazard of their bilging.

Five miles higher than the rapids they found their large boat to leak so fast, as to render it necessary to unload her. Near a war encampment, at this place, was a painted buckskin and a piece of scarlet cloth suspended on the limb of a tree; supposed to be a *Matcho Manitou*, to render their enterprise successful; less superstitious than the Indians, Mr. Pike converted this donation to the evil spirit, to his own use.

On the thirteenth they passed a handsome little river; which enters the Mississippi from the east. Here, on the only timbered land they had seen above the falls of Saint Anthony was discovered the first signs of buffalo.

On the day following, when hunting, Mr. Pike came on a trail which he supposed to be of savages; he pursued it with great caution for some time, when he started a large bear which had been feeding on the carcase of a deer. The river became shoal, rapid and full of islands as they ascended; it is skirted in some places by well timbered land, while swamps of hemlock and white pine frequently appear.

On the morning of the 16th the ground was covered with snow, two inches deep, which had fallen in the preceding night. It continued snowing, and the party had to pass a rapid immediately above them by wading to their necks in the water. Mr. Pike having determined to reach *Le Riviere de Corbeau*, the highest point ever made by traders in their bark canoes, an attempt was made to get over the rapids. After some hours exertion they were obliged to put ashore, at about two thirds up the rapids, with their limbs benumbed by the cold. Their boats filled with water so fast, as to keep most of the hands employed in bailing. The serjeant, a very stout man, had broken a blood vessel, and discharged nearly two quarts of blood by the mouth: one of the corporals evacuated nearly a pint when he attempted to void his urine. These circumstances, and fear of his men having previously been rendered useless, shewed the necessity of abandoning the river with the large boats, and erecting huts for the winter, where some of the party might be left whilst the others proceeded to the source of the river. The beauty of the situation, plenty of game, and abundance of fine pine timber in its vicinity, were additional reasons for stopping at this place.

Constructing small canoes for the purpose of continuing the voyage as far as practicable, and erecting the log huts, or station, for the party who were to remain here, occupied those who were not employed in hunting until the 2d of November.

Before leaving this place Mr. Pike had determined to get an elk, the signs of which were numerous. For this purpose he went down the river about twelve miles to a prairie on the east side, accompanied by one of his detachment. They fell in with a large drove of elk, and followed them, until they were weary, without killing any: they shot at and wounded deer which they could not afterwards track, and closed their first day "hungry, cold, and fatigued!" Resuming their chase of the elk with the morning, they attempted to drive them into the wood, but the leader of the drove breaking past them, the others followed him fearlessly in the same track. Their fire on the passing drove produced no effect. Thus disappointed they attempted to reach the river, by pursuing a south course. It carried them to Elk lake, which is about five miles long, and two miles wide, at the close of the second day. On both its banks they observed

droves of elk ; and about sunset, two bucks of a drove, which was crossing the prairie, came near them. One of them was killed ; and, as it fulfilled the promise which Mr. Pike had made when he left the station,—the death of this elk recompensed him for the fatigue of two days spent without food in the pursuit ! Whilst carrying one half to their fire, at the distance of a mile, the wolves seized the remainder.

One of the men having killed two deer about six miles below their encampment, and near the river, three of the party were sent in a canoe for them on the evening of the 6th with directions to return in the morning. It snowed all night ; and the men not returning, Mr. Pike went in search of them to the place where he understood the game had been killed. Discovering nothing of his men there, and knowing the hostile disposition of the Chipeways to persons found on this part of the river, whom they suppose are traders, he became uneasy, as to their fate. The snow continued to fall very fast, it was near a foot in depth, and he could scarcely find wood enough to make a fire for the night. The ice was forming rapidly in the river. The men not arriving in the course of the evening, he determined in the morning to return to the station ; and with a party resume the search for them. After writing on the snow directions to the lost men, should they arrive, and putting up his handkerchief as a flag, he took about ten pounds of meat, a bear skin, his gun and sword, and thus laden set out. Such was the anxiety of mind he laboured under that, notwithstanding the load he carried, he reached the bottom above their former hunting camp before night. In the course of the journey he passed several deer, and one elk, but declined firing, as it was doubtful whether he could have saved the meat had he been so fortunate as to kill any of them. While endeavouring to kindle a fire, he heard the sound of voices ; on looking up he discovered a corporal and three of his men passing. He called them to him, and they encamped together. They were going down the river in order to render what service they could to the party, whom they supposed had met with some difficulty from the ice, in ascending the river with their venison. They were very much hurt to find that Mr. Pike could give no tidings of the men. After experiencing some difficulty in crossing the river, they reached the station about noon. On the 11th two of the three men who were supposed to be lost, arrived ; they had seen and understood the writing on the snow, and had left the other man at their camp to take care of the meat. Their detention was owing to their not being able to find the deer which had been shot, and losing themselves in the swamp the first night.

In the afternoon of the 14th it rained with severe thunder and lightning, which was followed by an extraordinary cold evening.

Whatever charms there may be in the occasional pursuit of game, the life of a hunter is a slavish and precarious one. For although Mr. Pike had sometimes killed as much as six hundred weight in one day, at other times he spent three days, and only procured some small birds which he was compelled to shoot, to prevent his men from starving.

To hunt the elk with success, the gun should carry a ball of a size not more than 30 in the pound ;—an ounce ball would be preferable. Were these animals followed on horseback, by persons dextrous in the use of the bow and arrow, he supposes greater numbers might be killed than by any other means. The hunter might ride along side of them, lodge his arrow in what part of the body he pleased, and leaving the wounded one pass on to others.

On the 27th the men were sent down the river for eleven deer which one of the hunters had killed. They returned with seventeen deer and two elk

from the lower camp, and accompanied by two Indians, who stated that they belonged to a band residing on lake Superiour, called Fols Avoines. Their language was that of the Chipeways. They said that Mr. Dickson and three other traders were established about sixty miles below ; and that there were seventy lodges of Sioux on the Mississippi. The Indians were well satisfied with their reception ; and in consequence of the information they gave, Mr. Pike dispatched two of his men with a letter to Mr. Dickson, for the purpose of attaching the most powerful tribes in this quarter to his interests. On the 29th a Sioux (the son of a warrior called the Killien Rouge of the gens de feuille) and a Fols Avoine, came to the post. He stated that having struck their trail, and finding some to be shoe tracks, he supposed it led to the establiment of some trader, and followed it. He also stated that Mr. Dickson had told the Sioux "that they might hunt where they pleased, as the United States party were gone ahead, and would cause the Chipeways to treat them with friendship whenever Mr. Pike met with that nation. That he had barred up the mouth of the St. Peters, so that no liquor could ascend that river ; but if they came on the Mississippi, they should have what liquor they pleased, and that the party had a great deal of merchandize to give to Indians in presents."

This misrepresentation of facts seemed intended to serve his own views, and draw the Indians from the traders on the St. Peter's who adhered to the restricting law against supplying them with liquor to his own camp on the Mississippi, where he promised to supply them : it might have a farther ill effect ; for, under the expectation of hunting on the Mississippi in security, should any of them be killed, the blame would attach to the United States party. Mr. Pike therefore explained fully to the young chief the real facts and his ideas on the subject, and dismissed them on the day following with some trifling presents.

On the 3rd of December, Mr. Dickson with an engagee, and a young Indian, arrived at the post, where they were received with politeness and attention. After a serious conversation, on the information given by the young chief, it appeared to be in part incorrect : for Mr. D. denied, that either himself, or any houses under his direction, sold liquor. He gave such useful information relative to the future route of the party as led to a full confidence in the fulfilment of the object of the voyage. He appeared to be a gentleman of general commercial knowledge, and much geographical information relative to the western country. When Mr. Dickson left the station on the 4th he furnished Mr. Pike with a letter to a young man of his house on lake de Sable, and offered his services to any extent.

Three families of the Fols Avoine Indians arrived on the 6th, as also a Sioux Indian who pretended to have been sent from the Gens de Feuille, to give information that the Yanktons and Sussitones, two of the most savage bands of the Sioux, residing near the heads of the St. Peter's and the Missouri river, had commenced the war dance, and would depart in a few days ; in which case he conceived it best that the Fols Avoine should keep under the protection of the exploring party. He stated that he gave this information, as the making a stroke on the Chipeway would tend to defeat the object of the United States party. Although there were reasons for believing him a self deputed envoy, Mr. Pike offered to pay either him or any other young Sioux, who would go to these bands and deliver his words. The Indian promised to make them known on his return. On the next day another of the Fols Avoine tribe encamped near the stockade. The Indian named Chien Blanche, was an intelligent man ; and stated that he had wintered on that place for ten years past. Mr. Pike visited his lodge in the afternoon, and found him seated in the midst of his children, and grand child-

ren, amounting to ten in number. His wife, although advanced in years, was suckling two children that appeared nearly of the same age (two years) and which might have been taken for twins, had not one been of a much clearer complexion than the other. On enquiry he found that the fair one was the child of an Englishman by one of Chien Blanche's daughters lately dead; since which, the grand mother had taken it to her breast. The lodge was covered with mats made of platted rushes. To these Indians he was obliged to give meat;—but on explaining the situation the party were in, with respect to provisions, the Chien Blanche said, they were then without food, but would return a greater quantity for it in the course of the winter.

An invalid Sioux arrived on the 8th, with information that the Siasstones, and Yanktons were determined to make war on the Chipeways, and that they had formed a party of 150, or 160 men for the purpose: but that a part of the Siasstones had refused to join in the expedition, and would visit the exploring party on the day following. This information led Mr. Pike to defer the voyage to Lac Sanguae, which he had in contemplation, until he had seen these Indians; as he might, perhaps, be the means of preventing the intended stroke against the Chipeways. In expectation of a visit from the Indians, he had two large kettles of soup made for them. The Sioux did not arrive.

Leaving some of his men at the stockade, or station, Mr. Pike set off with the remainder in prosecution of his voyage to the source of the river, with sledges similar to those used by farmers, and capable of holding about four hundred weight. They crossed the river on the evening of the 9th of December, and encamped above the rapids. In the morning they began their march up the river: each of the sleds was drawn by two men, and the perogue towed by three. They found it difficult to get along; the snow being dissolved in many places on the prairie. The men with the canoe had frequently to wade and drag her over the rocks. As the party had now to depend altogether on game for their subsistence, the real dangers, and the difficulties to be encountered were communicated to the men this evening.

In the afternoon of the second day, they heard not less than fifty guns fired ahead; and, after dark, five more, with a noise and shouting in the prairie. Mr. Pike and a corporal pushed on 8 miles in advance of the party, with the hope of finding the Indians, but without success. They however found that the river was frozen so as to enable them to travel on the ice, and proceed three times as fast as they had hitherto done. A Fols Avoise, who met the party, informed them that, in the rear of the hills which bordered the prairie, there were small lakes which, by portages, communicated with lake Superior: and, that in one day's march in that direction, English trading houses would be met with. That the Chipeways were then hunting, and that the Sioux, who had visited the station on the 29th of the preceding month, on hearing the firing, had prudently retired to the west side of the Mississippi.

Persons unacquainted with the enterprising spirit of trade, and of the people of the North West company, would be surprised to find they had penetrated the wilderness so far from lake Superior, by lakes which are little better than marshes. It may serve to shew the difficulty of putting a barrier to their trade in this quarter.

Whilst proceeding up the river, the foremost of the sleds, which contained all their ammunition, and the baggage of Mr. Pike, fell through the ice. The men had to get into the river, up to their middles in water, to recover the articles: and on an examination of them it was found that all their cartridges, and several pounds of battle powder was spoilt; what they happened to have in kegs was saved, or they must have given up the prosecu-

tion of the voyage for want of the means of supplying themselves with provisions. Several other articles were materially injured. At the time they met with this accident, two Fols Avoine Indians arrived; one of whom had been at the camp on the 29th of November, in company with the Sioux. Mr. Pike shewed them by signs where he intended to encamp, and invited them to join him. They retired, but returned in the evening to the camp with each a deer, as a present. In the morning a small present was made in return, and the canoe was given to them to keep until the spring. After remaining two days encamped they left it on the morning of the 17th, with their sleds very heavy laden. Having eleven deer on hand, and it being necessary to lighten their load, a hole was dug in the ground, in which a barrel of pork, and one of flour, wrapped in deer skins to keep off the damp, were deposited. After filling up the pit, they made their fire immediately over it. On the evening of the 20th, they deposited another barrel of flour, and heard three guns fired at sunset.

On Tuesday, the 24th of December, they reached the Isle de Corbeau, in lat. 45 deg. 49 min. 50 sec. north, at the confluence of the riviere de Corbeau with the Mississippi. The latter river, above this place, is very narrow, and changes its general direction, from west to northeast.

From the frequent breaking of their sleds, and accidents of that nature, the progress of the party was very slow: sometimes not more than four miles in a day, and seldom exceeding ten.

After passing the riviere de Corbeau, the timber consisted of yellow and pitch pine: scarcely any of which had been met with below. Much of it is dead. The country becomes dreary and barren, with high rocks and bare knobs. As they proceeded up the river, the bottoms were found to extend, and the country was full of small lakes. On approaching Pine river, a new species of pine called by the French "Sappine," was observed to grow in abundance.

At the mouth of Pine river is the site of a large Chipeway encampment, of fourteen lodges. It had been occupied in the summer, but was then vacant. From the marks which were left, it appeared that they had marched a party of fifty warriors against the Sioux, and had killed four men and four women. The women were represented by carved images of pine or cedar, the four men were painted and planted up to their middles in the ground, with four poles, sharpened at the ends, by their sides. Near this place they observed poles, on which deer skins, plumes, silk handkerchiefs, &c. were suspended; as also a circular hoop of cedar with something attached to it, which had the appearance of a scalp. Near the site of each lodge was a hole dug in the ground, with boughs ready to cover it, as a retreat for their women and children in case of an attack from the Sioux.

Higher up they passed six very elegant bark canoes, which had been laid up by the Chipeways; as also a camp, curiously formed of pine branches; which did not seem to have been evacuated more than ten days.

On the evening of the 2nd of January, 1806, the sentinel gave information that some Indians were coming at full speed upon the trail or track of the party. The men were ordered to stand by their arms carelessly. The Indians were immediately in the camp, and saluted the flag by a discharge of three pieces, when four Chipeways, one Englishman, and a Frenchman of the North West company presented themselves. They stated, that some women having discovered the trail, and not knowing but it might be their enemies, had given the alarm. They had heard of the United States party, and revered the flag. Mr. Grant (the Englishman) had only arrived the day before from lake de Sable; from which he had marched in a day and a half. The Indians were presented with half a deer, for which they were very thankful, having been kept in their camp some days by the discovery of the fires which the exploring party made where they stopped.

The next morning the party continued their journey, except Mr. Pike and one of his men, who accompanied Mr. Grant to his establishment on the Red Cedar lake. The British flag was flying at the trading house:—Mr. Grant said it belonged to the Indians. After explaining to a Chipeway warrior, called 'Curlyhead,' the objects of the voyage, and receiving his answer, which was that he should remain quiet till their return, they eat breakfast and parted. Mr. Pike and his companion overtook the rest of the party at the close of the day.

In the night of the 4th, Mr. Pike's tent was discovered by the sentinel to be on fire; the party were alarmed in time to prevent any other damage than the loss of the tent, which was a double one, and some articles of clothing which had been hung to dry. They fortunately saved three small kegs of powder from the flames, which were in the tent.

On the 6th, the snow was three feet deep, and continued falling all the day. In this day's march they met two Frenchmen, of the N. W. company, each of whom carried about 200 pounds weight on his back. They had rackets on. Mr. Grant, and the Frenchman with him, were gone on before. The next day was so intensely cold that several of the men had their extremities frozen. It was found necessary to send a person forward to make fires every three miles.

Supposing themselves to be at no great distance from Sandy lake, Mr. Pike, with a corporal, left the party, and went to view it. They walked briskly till towards evening, when they met a young Indian, one of those who had visited their camp near Red Cedar lake. They endeavoured to explain to him their wish of reaching lake de Sable that evening. He turned back with them until they came to a trail which led across the woods, which he signified was a near course. They went with him, and soon found themselves in a Chipeway encampment, to which the friendly savage had led them, with the expectation of their remaining at it all night, knowing it to be too late to reach the lake at a reasonable hour. On their refusing to stay he put them in the right road. At dusk they arrived at the place where the track left the Mississippi, when they traversed two leagues of the wilderness without much difficulty, and at last struck the shore of the lake de Sable, over a branch of which their course lay. The snow having covered the trail of the Frenchmen who had passed before with rackets, they were fearful of losing themselves on the lake. The reason for such apprehension can be best felt by those who have been exposed on a naked and dreary plain, in a high latitude, on a December night, when the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer stood twenty-seven degrees below 0. Cheered by a belief that they saw the opposite shore, they proceeded in a direct line; and after some time had the satisfaction of discovering lights in the houses. On their arrival they found, to their surprize, a large stockade. The gate being opened they entered, and proceeded to the quarters of Mr. Grant, where they were treated with the greatest hospitality.

This establishment was made by the North West company twelve years before: when it was under the direction of Mr. Charles Bousky. It has now acquired such a degree of regularity as to allow the superintendent to live with tolerable comfort. They have horses, which were obtained from the Indians on Red river.

They raise plenty of potatoes, and the lake furnishes them with pike, suckers, pickereel, and white fish, in any number. Beaver, deer, and moose, are in abundance; but their principal dependance is on the wild oats, which they purchase from the Indians at the rate of one dollar and a half the bushel. Flour, pork, and salt may be considered as interdicted articles to persons not principals in the establishment. Flour sells at half a dollar, salt one dollar, pork 80 cents, sugar half a dollar, and tea at four dollars and

a half a pound ! The sugar is obtained from the Indians, and made from maple juice.

The remainder of the party did not arrive at the establishment of the N. W. company, on lake de Sable, until the evening of the thirteenth ; one of the men had been much injured by the fall of a tree ; this, with the badness of the ice on Lake river, (occasioned by the marshes which abound on it) and through which one of the sleds fell, had much retarded their progress. At the establishment they were furnished with a warm room, and well treated. Mr. Grant had gone to an Indian lodge to receive his credits.

On the 14th Mr. Pike, crossed the lake, and ascertained the latitude to be 46 deg. 9 min. 20 sec. north. Mr. Grant returned on this day, with a quantity of furs, and eleven beaver carcasses.

Mr. Pike, and Mr. Grant, accompanied by two of the party, went to view the lake, and found it more extensive than he had imagined. On leaving the stockade they met an Indian, whose countenance expressed great astonishment when told that Mr. Pike was an American ; for, it is here confessed that the savages express the greatest veneration for the American character when it is connected with warlike achievements : they say, " the American is neither a Frenchman nor an Englishman, but a white Indian." At this place the men were employed in making sleds to conform to those used in this part of the country : which are, a single plank turned up like the head of a violin. The baggage is lashed on in bags or sacks.

On the 19th two men of the N. W. company arrived from the Fond de Lac Supérieur with letters ; one of which was from their establishment in Atabasca, and had been since May in coming.

While at this post, they eat beaver dressed in every respect as roasted pig. It had no unpleasant taste ; on the contrary, was very excellent eating. The head of the moose, which they also eat here, when well boiled, was considered equal to the tail of the beaver, to which in taste and substance it is similar.

On the 20th January, the party and sleds left the North West company's station, and reached the portage between the Mississippi and Leech Lake river. It began to snow in the evening, and continued all night and the morning of the next day. From the quantity of water on the ice, it was found impracticable to get all the baggage along ; eight men were therefore sent back laden with those articles which were not absolutely necessary to the party. Mr. Grant who had accompanied them thus far, not being so incumbered with articles as they were, left them on the morning of the second day. As they approached the neighbourhood of a lodge or house belonging to Mr. Grant, where he had promised to halt half a day, Mr. Pike, accompanied by an Indian in his party and one of the men, left the main body, to go to it : the soldier, not walking with the same speed, was left behind, while Mr. Pike and his companion reached the house about sunset : they met two of Mr. Grant's men, who had left it in the morning, on their return to the lake de Sable. Here they passed an uncomfortable night ; having nothing to eat, very little fire wood, and no blankets. The Indian, however, slept sound, while Mr. Pike sat over the few coals their fire produced. The man they had left behind did not arrive that night. The Indian having expressed a wish to go after his son, left Mr. Pike to his reflections in solitude, the next morning. About ten o'clock the soldier arrived : he had followed them until some time in the night, when, finding he could not overtake his company, he made a fire and haked ; but having no ax, could scarcely keep himself from freezing. He met the Indian in the morning, who made signs for him to go on. After the whole party had arrived at this lodge, Mr. Pike determined to proceed on to the head of the river,

accompanied by one of his young men, named Miller. He left the camp on the morning of the 29th, when it was snowing very fast. They passed an island, one rapid and a small lake, and arrived about one o'clock at the falls of Pakagama; the greatest impediment to the navigation of the Mississippi, except the falls of Sariat Anthony, between its source and the Gulf of Mexico. They stopped for the night at three Indian lodges, which did not appear to have been left more than three days; and where they found a fine parcel of split wood. By cutting down three sapping trees, and weaving their branches into the windward side of the lodges, so as to protect them from the storm, they had a tolerable night's lodging. Not being able to find a trail, they had to pass through a dismal cypress swamp in the morning, before they reached the river. They struck it at a small lake, and perceived a track through it, which they knew to be Mr. Grant's by his mark, 'a cut off,' which had been agreed upon before they parted: following this, they got on very well till they arrived at a small lake where the trail was entirely obliterated. After some search on the opposite side they discovered it, and passed through a dismal swamp, beyond which was another lake, where the track was again lost. They directed their course for a point about three miles distant, and where they found a Chipeway lodge of one man, his wife, five children, and an old woman. They were received by these savages with great barbarity; the dogs were set on them, and when they reached the lodge, the Indians endeavoured to thrust their hands into their pockets. This was resented in such a manner as to let them know it would not be borne with through fear, and, that the strangers were Che-wockmen, or Americans. They were then treated more civilly. After arranging their camp, Mr. Pike went into the lodge, where he was presented with a plate of dried meat. He requested Miller to bring about two gills of whiskey which made them all good friends. The old squaw gave him in return more meat, and offered some tobacco, the latter of which he declined; and gave her an order on his corporal for a knife, and half a carrot of tobacco. After Mr. Pike had gone to his own fire, the old man came out, and proposed to trade beaver skins for whiskey; meeting a refusal, he returned, and directly the old woman came out with a beaver skin; she being also refused, he returned to the charge with a quantity of dried meat, which on any other terms would have been acceptable; a peremptory refusal now, put an end to all farther application. Indeed it appeared, that such was their desire of obtaining liquor, that a quart of whiskey would have purchased all the family was worth! The next morning Mr. Pike took his clothes into the Indian lodge to dress, but was received very coolly; a present to the wife of a little salt, and a dram to the Indian unasked for, appeared to ameliorate their manners; and they gave directions of the rout to be pursued.

They passed the lake, or morass, and entered on the meadow through which the Mississippi winds its course of nearly fifteen miles; at the head of this meadow they discovered that they had missed the river, which they regained by making a turn of two miles. They passed the fork made by the lake Sangue branch and that from lake Winepic. Taking a west course, they crossed a meadow, or prairie. The river here is only fifteen yards wide. They encamped about a mile above the meadow, where they saw an animal which, from the leaps it took, seemed to be a panther, but of twice the size of the panther on the lower Mississippi. It shewed some disposition to approach Mr. Pike, which he wished to encourage by squatting down, and desiring Miller to do the same behind him, but without effect. The night was so cold, that the spirits they had in a keg congealed to the consistence of honey. Early in the morning they left the camp, and passed along a continued suite of meadows, until they reached the Sangue

lake, a little after midday. The sight of this lake was highly grateful to their feelings, it being the main source of the Mississippi; but the little lake Winepic is navigable to Red Cedar lake, which is the extremity of the navigation, by a communication of five leagues. Across the lake it was twelve miles to the establishment of the North West Company, which they arrived at about ten o'clock in the evening. The gates were locked, but on knocking they were admitted, and received by Mr. Hugh M'Gillis, with great politeness and hospitality; and had a supper of biscuit, butter, and cheese!

After remaining a few days within doors, to recover from the fatigue of travelling, Mr. Pike, accompanied by Mr. M'Gillis, went to visit Mr. Anderson, the agent of Mr. Dickson, at the west end of the lake, in a situation favourable for trade. He went in a cabriole, formed to carry one person. It is constructed of boards planed smooth, and turned up about two feet in front, where they come to a point; the width behind is about two feet and a half, where there is fixed a box covered with dressed skins, and painted. This box is open behind, but covered in front nearly two thirds of the length. When wrapped up in his buffaloe robe, the traveller slides his feet into this box, or boot, horizontally, sitting with his body upright, and his back supported by a cushion. The horse draws in shafts. Thus seated, and the head and extremities covered by a fur cap, and other warm clothing, he bids defiance to wind and weather.

On returning to the N. W. establishment, they found that some of the Indians had already arrived from their hunting camps; and a Mons. Bous-sant, who had been sent from the establishment some time before on business of the company, but who not returning when expected, it was supposed the Indians had killed him. Mr. Grant had been sent in search of, and returned with him, to the great joy of the factory. On the 10th they hoisted the American flag, on the staff on which the English jack was then flying. Some Indians and riflemen, after a few shot, broke the iron pin to which it was fastened, and brought it to the ground.

The 'Sweet,' Buck, Burnt, and other chiefs, came in on the day following. The first of them is a venerable old man. He says that, "when he was made a man, and began to hunt, the Sioux occupied this ground; that they evacuated it in the same year in which the French missionaries were killed at the river Pacagama."

Mr. M'Gillis, with two of his men, and Mr. Pike, with a corporal of his corps, left Leech lake on the morning of the 12th of February, and arrived at the company's house, on Red Cedar lake, at sun-set—a distance of thirty miles. This lake is about ten miles long, and six miles wide. From the Straights to where the Mississippi runs out of the lake, is called six miles. The bay at the entrance extends nearly east and west six miles. It is about two miles and a half from the north side to a big point. This may be called the upper source of the Mississippi, being fifteen miles above lake Winepic, and the extent of canoe navigation. It is only two leagues from some of the waters of Hudson's bay.

The next day, Mr. Pike took observations for determining the latitude of the place, and found it to be 47 deg. 42 min. 40 sec. N. Mr. Thompson, in the year 1798, determined the latitude of the company's house here to be in 47 deg. 30 min. N. which he considered as the source of the Mississippi.

On walking about three miles back from the lake, Mr. Pike found two-thirds of the country, at least, covered with water.

Here they eat of the white fish, broiled on iron grates, fixed horizontally in the chimney. The entrails are left in the fish while dressing! From

hence one of the men walked to lake Winepic, and returned by one o'clock with the stem of the Sweet's pipe :—to him of as much consequence in his affairs with the Sioux, as the credentials of a civilized society to its ambassador.

They left this house, and their hospitable hosts, (a Canadian, and his wife, a Chipeway squaw) who relinquished to their use the only article which might be called a bed, attended them as servants, and could not be persuaded to touch a mouthful until their guests had finished their repasts, and arrived at the factory about sunset ; having been drawn at least ten miles in a sleigh by two dogs, who were loaded with six hundred pounds, and marched so fast, as to make it difficult for men with snow shoes to keep up with them.

On the 16th Mr. Pike held a council with the chiefs and warriors of this place, and of Red lake. It required patience, coolness, and some management, to attain what he had in view ; which was, that these Indians should make peace with the Sioux, and deliver up their medals and flags ; that some of their chiefs should accompany him to Saint Louis, and, that they, as a proof of their pacific disposition, should smoke out of the Wabasha's pipe, which lay before them, on the table. They all smoked, from the head chief to the youngest soldier ; and generally delivered up their medals and flags with a good grace ; the Flatmouth excepted, who said he had left both his at his camp, three days' march from this place. He, however, promised to deliver them to Mr. M'Gillis to be forwarded. The old Sweet thought it most proper to return to the Indians of Red lake, Red river, and Rainy Lake river. The Flatmouth also said, it was necessary for him to return to his young warriors. The other chiefs did not think themselves of consequence enough to offer any reason for not following Mr. Pike to St. Louis ; a journey of such extent, and through hostile tribes.

Mr. Pike then replied, " he was sorry to find that the hearts of the Sauteurs of this quarter were so weak. That the other nations would say, ' What is there no soldiers at Leech, Red, and Rainy lakes, who have hearts to carry the calumet of their chief, to their father's ?' " This had the effect of rousing them. The Buck, and the Beau, two of the most celebrated young warriors, rose, and offered themselves for the employ. They were accepted as the children of Mr. Pike, whilst he was installed their father. The example of these two animated the rest, and it would not have been difficult to have raised a company among them. The Beau is brother to the Flatmouth. He then gave his young soldiers a dance, with a small dram ; they wanted more liquor, but a firm denial convinced them of the folly of the attempt. On the next day, the *chief of the land* brought in his flag and medal :—Preparations were made for the party to march. The Sweet was instructed how to send the ' Parole' to the Indians of Red river. The soldiers then went through their manual exercise, and fired three blank rounds ; which not a little astonished the Indians.

On the morning of the 18th of February, the men were marched for Red Cedar lake ; Mr. Pike, and a guide which Mr. M'Gillis had provided for him, were to follow afterwards. They were all provided with snow shoes, and marched off pretty well, amidst the shouts and acclamations of the Indians, who had generally remained for the purpose of witnessing their departure.

Mr. Anderson arrived in the night, having concluded to go down the river to Mr. Dickson in company with Mr. Pike and his party. In the morning, Mr. Pike, Mr. L'Rone, and his two young Indians left the hospitable abode of Mr. M'Gillis. He had presented Mr. Pike with his dogs and

cabriole, here valued at one hundred dollars. They crossed Leech lake in a south-east direction, twenty-four miles. One of the dogs broke from his harness, and would not suffer them to catch him again on that day; the other had to draw the whole load, of at least seven hundred and fifty pounds, from lake to lake. On resuming their march the next day, the men set off three hours before Mr. Pike; but his sleigh dogs brought him up to them before one o'clock. They encamped at half after three, on the bank of Sandy lake, having travelled over lakes almost the whole distance. At the request of Mr. L'Rone, whom Mr. M'Gillis had sent as a guide, the Indians applied for leave for him to accompany the party; Mr. Pike consented to his continuing as far as Red Cedar lake: on this, he personally expressed his wish to desert from the service of the North-West company, and join the American party. Honour and gratitude forbid such an act on the part of Mr. Pike: the man was immediately sent back, and the party pursued their journey without a guide. Continuing through woods and bushes, they came to White Fish lake, which may be considered as the source of Fine river. The North-West company had once an establishment at this place, here being the nearly consumed remains of a stockade about fifty feet square. From this place Mr. Pike, accompanied by the young Indians, set out in advance of the party to Red Cedar lake. Owing to the badness of the road, the journey was a very fatiguing one. On arriving there, he found Mr. Grant and De Breche (chief of Sandy lake) at the house. From this place one of Mr. Grant's men was dispatched to meet the party, and carry a bag of rice to them. He met them encamped on the Mississippi; and on the 27th they arrived with a chief called the White Fisher, and seven Indians.

De Breche, in a serious conversation with Mr. Pike, informed him, that a string of wampum had been sent to the Chipeways, as he believed, from the British commanding officer at Saint Joseph.

On the 28th of February, the party left Red Cedar lake on their return to Saint Louis. The young Indians staid behind, under pretence of waiting for the chief De Breche, who had returned to Sandy lake for his flag and medals, and was to meet Mr. Pike at his winter station with Mr. Grant, about the 15th of the month following.

Early on the third of March they passed the place of their encampment on Christmas day. Almost immediately afterwards a smoke was discovered on the western shore by Mr. Pike, who was ahead of his party in his cabriole; he halloosed, and some Indians appeared on the bank; they proved to be Chipeways who had left Red Cedar lake on the same day the United States party did.

They presented Mr. Pike with some dried meat, which he gave to his sleigh dogs, left their camp, accompanied him down the river some distance, and encamped on the west side. At noon the party came to the place where they had buried a barrel of flour on the 21st of December, and found there a corporal and one of the men from the station. From these men they learnt that those who had been left behind were all well; that one of the sentinels had been fired on by a Sioux whom the serjeant had made drunk;—and, that this serjeant, contrary to particular instructions, had improperly, and without just cause, dissipated almost all the stores which were intended for the descending voyage. While the travelling party had fared hard, and almost perished with hunger; and by changing their route had left many very essential articles behind them on Sandy lake, under the expectation of replacing them at the station, it was highly mortifying to find their hopes so disappointed, through the misconduct of him in whose especial

charge they had been left. They took up the barrel of flour, and proceeded to the mouth of a little river which enters the Mississippi from the east. The next morning they, by a fire, thawed the ground where their two barrels were deposited on the 19th of December, and took them up.

They arrived at their station on the morning of the 5th of March, where they found all the men in good health. After noon they were visited by Mr. Dickson, accompanied by the Killien Rouge, his son, and two other Sioux men, and two women, who came to be introduced to the Sauteurs whom they expected had come with Mr. Pike from the head of the river.

While they were here, several Indian chiefs came in to see Mr. Pike. With them he held several conversations. Thomas, the Fols Avoine chief, gave assurances that he would interest himself in obliging the Paunts to deliver up the men who had committed recent murders on the Ouinsconsia and Rock rivers; and, if necessary, he would make it a national quarrel on the side of the Americans. This chief is of a noble and masculine figure, and an extraordinary hunter: as an instance of this it is related, that he killed forty elk and a bear in one day, chasing the former from the dawn till evening. He is animated in the delivery of his speeches. He appears very much attached to the Americans. He gave his pipe to be presented to the Sauteurs on their arrival with assurances of safety on their voyage, and his wish that they would descend the river. The Fils de Killien Rouge also gave his pipe, to be presented to the Sauteur Indians on their arrival; "to make them smoke, and to assure them of his friendly disposition, and that he would wait to see them at Mr. Dickson's."

Thomas made a complaint against a Frenchman by the name of Greignon, who resided on Green Bay, who, he said, abused the Indians, and even beat them, without provocation. Mr. Pike promised to write to the Indian agent at Michlemaekinack on the occasion.

In a long conversation with a 'Reynard,' he professed not to believe in an hereafter; but, that the world would be drowned at some future period; and a question with him was, how it was to be re-peopled? Other Indians, however, of his nation, say he is singular in this opinion.

In an hunting excursion on the opposite side of the river to the station, Mr. Pike ascended a mountain which borders on the prairie. Here he found a stone on which the Indians sharpen their knives, and a war club half finished. From this elevated position, the eye wanders over vast prairies, with scarcely any other interruption than scattering clumps of trees, which, at a distance, have the appearance of mountains; in two or three of those the smoke is perceived curling in its ascent over their tops; it points out the habitation of the wandering savage, and often leads the blood-thirsty warrior to his defenceless prey.

The voyage of Mr. Pike suspended, for a time at least, this horrid warfare, through a vast extent of country. Peace followed his steps, from the prairie des Chiens to the lower Red river! If a subaltern officer with twenty men, at such a distance from the seat of his government, can produce so great a change in the minds of savages, what may not be expected, when a great and independent power, instead of blowing the flames of discord, exerts its whole influence in the promotion of peace? Such are the reflections which Mr. Pike made on viewing the country below him, and the immediate effects which had flowed from the expedition entrusted to his care.

On returning to the station, he found the Fols Avoine chief, who had come with the intention of passing the night there. In a conversation he mentioned that near the conclusion of the revolutionary war his nation began to look upon him as a warrior. They received a 'parole' from the En-

gliah at Michlemackinack ; on which he was dispatched with forty warriors. On his arrival, he was requested to lead them against the Americans. To this request he replied :—We have considered you and the Americans as one people. You are now at war ; how are we to know which has justice on their side ? Besides, you white people are, in number, like the leaves on the trees. Should I march, with my forty warriors to the field of battle, they, with their chief, will be swallowed up, as the big water embosoms the small rivulets which run into it. No ! I will return to my country, where my warriors may be of service against our red enemies, and their actions commemorated in the dance of our nation." Mr. Grant and the Chipeway chief not arriving at the station on the 15th, agreeably to their promise, Mr. Pike with his interpreter and one man, set out on a visit to Thomas, the Fols Avoine chief, who, with six other lodges of his nation, was encamped about twenty miles down the river. After passing a snowy night in the woods without any other covering than a blanket, they reached the place of destination on the following morning. The camp was situated in one of the finest sugar groves imaginable. They were received in a truly patriarchal style : the chief pulled off Mr. Pike's moccasins, assigned him the best place in the lodge, and offered dry cloaths. After being presented with the syrup of the maple to drink, the chief asked his guest which he preferred, beaver, swan, elk or deer, to eat. On giving preference to the first, a large kettle was filled by his wife ; and the soup being thickened with the flour which the visiting party carried with them, they had what was considered a delicious repast. Having taken this refreshment, they were asked by the chief, if they would visit his people at the other lodges : and, on signifying their assent, they went round the camp,—at each lodge of which they were presented with something to eat ; at one a bowl of sugar,—at another, the tail of a beaver :—generally, with what was esteemed a delicacy by their Indian friends. On returning to the lodge of the chief, they found a bed prepared for each of them, of good soft bear skins ; in addition to which Mr. Pike was furnished with a large feather pillow. An incident occurred here characteristic of the Indian hospitality : with the rigid moralist it will place the chief in the unfavourable light of an abandoned libertine ; but, the liberal mind will make allowance for the customs of society, and, perhaps, consider it as an extraordinary trait of generosity in this son of nature. In the course of the day, the chief had observed a ring on the finger of Mr. Pike : he enquired if it was gold : he was told it was, and the gift of a lady with whom the wearer would feel happy to be at that time. He appeared absorbed in thought ; and at night said to the interpreter, that " perhaps his father (a name by which the Indians designated Mr. Pike) felt much grieved, from the want of a woman : if it was so, he would furnish him with one." The interpreter informed him that the Americans had each but one wife, to whom they considered it a duty to be faithful. " He thought it strange, as he had three : besides, he knew some Americans at his nation, who had five or six wives during the course of the winter." On the interpreter observing that these were men without character ; that all the great men had but one, the chief seemed satisfied, but said " he liked better to have as many as he pleased." This conversation passed between the Indian and interpreter without any appeal to Mr. Pike, whose sentiments on the subject the interpreter knew : it also saved him from the refusal of what it was evident the chief considered as the greatest favour he could bestow.

The next morning Mr. Pike purchased two baskets of sugar ; and, after breakfasting on a swan, departed for the station on the river. The eagles, ravens, and the beasts of prey, had devoured a deer and two geese, which

were killed on their march to the Indian lodges, and which they expected to take with them on their return.

On the 21st, a Fols Avoine chief, called Shawonoe, and six young men paid a visit to Mr. Pike, and informed him that a camp of Sauteurs were on the river, waiting for their chiefs to come down.

Agreeably to promise, Mr. Pike, with his interpreter and one man, paid a visit to the old chief Shawonoe. They reached his camp in about two hours; and in their road met with a Fols Avoine chief, called Chien Blanche, who visited the station previous to the expedition from it to the head of the river. At the lodge of Shawonoe they were received with the usual Indian hospitality: yet very different from the polite reception they met with from Thomas. Charlevoix and others have noticed the beauty of this nation; as it respects the males in particular, they are correct. They are all straight, well made men, about the middle size, with an expression of countenance that inspires confidence and charms at first sight:—their complexions are fair, (for Indians) their teeth good, their eyes large, and rather languishing,—in short, they would pass for handsome men, among those who are thought to be so. Forming his ideas of Indian women from those generally met with, Mr. Pike had not credited what travellers had said respecting the females of this nation; in this lodge, however, were five that deserved the appellation of handsome women, when he arrived. In the evening there came in a couple, whom the interpreter said were considered the handsomest in the nation. The man was about five feet eleven inches high, with all that pleasantness of countenance, which distinguishes the people of this nation. His companion, in her twenty-second year, had dark brown eyes, jet hair, with an elegant neck. Her figure was genteel, and without that inclination to corpulency which the women generally have after they are married. The man appeared to attach himself particularly to Mr. Pike, whom he informed, that his wife was the daughter of an American who passed through the nation some years before, and spent a week or two in it. Having some biscuits with him, Mr. Pike presented them to her as his countrywoman: this created a laugh among the others, and she was called the Bostonian, during his stay.

These Indians are close in their dealings. For a little bear's oil, they charged at the rate of a dollar the gallon; and even at this price wanted to adulterate it by the admixture of a portion of tallow. They asked ten dollars for a bear skin; it was a very fine one; indeed, it is said that the traders sometimes give as high as sixteen dollars for the very best. These skins are infinitely superior here, to what are procured on the lower Mississippi.

In the evening they were entertained with the Calumet and dog dances; as also the dance of the ———. Some of them struck the post, and told their war exploits; but they spoke in the *Menomene* tongue, which the interpreter did not understand. After the dance, followed the feast of the dead, as it is called; at which, each two or three are served with a vessel full of meat. When all were ready the old chief delivered a prayer; after which the eating begins, and it is expected that every portion will be eaten entirely up, care being taken not to drop even a bone. What is left is carefully gathered together, and put in the dish. The eating being over, they were treated with soup: this was followed by a prayer, or exhortation from the chief, which finished the ceremony. They are careful in gathering up the remains of this feast, which they throw into the water, lest the dogs, which are kept in great numbers, should get them. Burning these fragments is viewed in an equally sacrilegious light with giving them to the dogs.

Mr. Pike, in his dog-sled, arrived at the station in the forenoon of the next day : after noon, Mr. Grant arrived with De Breche and some of his young men ; but the young warriors of Leech lake had returned to their homes. The Fols Avoine chiefs were informed of this circumstance : and both Thomas, and the old Shawonoe, the one accompanied by seven, and the other by six of their men, came to the station on the 26th. In the evening they danced until ten o'clock. The old Shawonoe, and the White Dog of the Fols Avoine, told their exploits, which however were unintelligible to the interpreter. When De Breche arose, he said, "I once killed a Sioux, and cut off his head with such a spear as I now present to this Winebago," presenting one at the same time to a Winebago present, and with whom the Chipeways were then at war. This was considered as a great honour by the latter. The next morning the Chipeway chief made a speech, and presented his pipe to Mr. Pike, to be by him borne to the Sioux—seven strings of wampum were attached to it, showing his authority to be from seven bands of the Chipeways, to conclude a peace, or make war. He had chosen the former, and with his pipe requested that they might be informed that "he, and his people would encamp at the mouth of the river de Corbeau, the ensuing summer, where they would see the United States flag flying." As a proof of his pacific disposition the Fols Avoine chief then rose and said, "My nation is rendered small by its enemies ; only a remnant is left :—but we can boast of not having been slaves. For, in preference to having our women and children taken, we have killed them. Since our father (meaning Mr. Pike) has travelled so far, and taken such pains to prevent the Sioux and Chipeways from killing each other, it would be ungenerous in us not to listen to his words. I will report to the Sioux the pacific propositions of the Sauteurs, and hope the peace will be firm and lasting." Mr. Pike then informed the Fols Avoine chief, that he would report his words to the Sauteurs, and should feel thankful to the two nations for having laid aside the tomahawk at his request. He thanked the Fols Avoine for his good wishes and the 'Parole' he had given to the Sauteurs. This done, each chief was presented with a kettle of liquor to drink the others' healths in ; and the flag, which had been presented to De Breche, was displayed in the station. The Fols Avoine then departed ; a circumstance not displeasing to Mr. Pike, who had to find provision for them all ; and they had already consumed what dried meat was laid in for his descending voyage. He was apprehensive, lest his hunters should not be able to furnish another supply.

In the afternoon of the 28th, Mr. Grant and the Sauteurs took their departure, and were accompanied by Mr. Pike as far as the lodge of the Shawonoe, where they (ten in number) staid during the night. Here the Fols Avoine and the Sauteurs had a dance, and feasted on elk, sugar and syrup. Before their departure Mr. Pike demanded the medal and flag of the chief ; the former he delivered, but with a bad grace, and said the flag were in the hand, when he left Lake de Sable.

They had thunder and lightning this evening.

In the morning they parted ; Mr. Grant and his party for Sandy lake,—and Mr. Pike and his, to his hunting camp ; from which he was summoned to the station by a letter from Mr. Dickson. The person who brought the letter stated that a Sioux had arrived with Mr. Dickson's man. He took a man with him, and reached the station after midnight ; having travelled along the ice covered by nearly a foot of water, and through a tempest of lightning and rain. The Sioux finding the Sauteurs had left the station, returned immediately.

As the ice was beginning to break, all their attention was directed to getting their boats in order, and hunting for a supply of provisions. They caulked the seams of their boats, and payed them with the tallow of their candles. The young Shawonoe arrived from above with their canoes and about one thousand pounds of furs, which he deposited in the station. The Fols Avoine chief, called the old Shawonoe, came and encamped near the station, and informed Mr. Pike that his nation had determined to send his son to Saint Louis in his place, and in whose favour he declined the voyage.

Having got every thing on board their boats, on the evening before, the party embarked at seven o'clock, on the morning of the 7th of April, in high spirits. They passed the grand rapids, and reached Mr. Dickson's before the sun set, where they were saluted with three rounds. The following day was spent in making a chart of the St. Peter's river, &c. and in settling the affairs of the Indian department with Mr. Dickson; to whom Mr. Pike confesses himself greatly indebted for his communications. They left Mr. Dickson and Mr. de Paulire in the morning, and in the afternoon arrived at Mr. Paulire's house, where they were received with great politeness by his brother (to whom Mr. Pike had a letter) and a Mr. Veau, who wintered near him.

Thus had Mr. Pike been the harbinger of peace to the inhabitants on this river. The traders followed him and wintered in safety, giving articles of comfort to the Indians in exchange for the produce of their hunting excursions.

After leaving this house they discovered a bark canoe about three hundred yards ahead, which they lost sight of suddenly on turning a point of land, without being able to discover it again when they reached the same part of the river. This excited their attention; Mr. Pike stood up in his barge, and at last perceived it turned up in the grass of the prairie. After passing the place about a gun shot, the Indians made their appearance from under her, and launched their canoe into the river. They then came on, and when the party halted for the night at a vacant trading house, they halted likewise, addressing Mr. Pike with '*Say go commandant,*' or your servant, captain. When the motive for their concealing themselves was demanded, they replied—their canoe leaked, and they had turned her up to discharge the water. This could not be believed, and as their conduct was suspicious, they were received rather coolly: however, each of them had a piece of bread and a small dram given to them. They then re-embarked and continued down the river.

The conduct of these men reminded Mr. Pike of a visit made by the Fils de Pinechon to Mr. Dickson during the winter, the principal cause of which was, to give Mr. Pike notice that the seven Indians who had been met at the falls of Saint Anthony, when the party ascended the river, had since declared that they would kill *him*, for agreeing to a peace between the Sioux and Sauteurs; *Mr. Pike* for being the means of preventing them from taking revenge for relatives killed in August 1805, by the Sauteurs; and *Thomas*, the Fols Avoine chief, for the support which he seemed disposed to afford. This information had not received the attention it merited as coming from the first chief of the village; but the conduct of these Indians put the party on their guard.

This day there was an appearance of returning vegetation, although in some places the snow remained a foot in depth.

They reached the falls of St. Anthony on the morning of the 10th, and got all their baggage and their canoes across the portage before night. These falls had a much more tremendous appearance now than when the party ascended the river. The ice continued floating in the river all day.

The next day the large boats were got over the portage, and the party descended to an island at the mouth of the St. Peter's river.

Mr. Pike went to the chiefs, and informed them that he had something to communicate. The Fils de Penechon said he would provide a place; and accordingly a council was assembled at the setting of the sun, and Mr. Pike was sent for to attend. Here he found a great many chiefs of the Assusitones, Gens de Feuille, and the Gens de Lac: they were waiting for the Yanktons; in all about one hundred lodges. As the party crossed the river, they were saluted, in the usual manner, with a discharge of ball. The council house consisted of two large lodges, capable of containing 300 men. In the upper lodge were forty chiefs, and as many pipes set against the poles; along with which, Mr. Pike had the pipes of the Sauteurs arranged. He then informed them, in a short speech, of all that had occurred between him and these people. Finding it difficult to make himself understood through the medium of his interpreter, he was content with stating to them his wish that some of their chiefs should go to St. Louis; and to such as chose to go to the Prairie des Chiens, he would there explain himself more fully. They then all smoked out of the Sauteurs pipes but three, who were painted black, were of those who had lost their relations last summer. When he departed, he invited the Fils de Pinechon, and the son of the Killein Rouge to cross the river and sup with him; where, with Mr. Duncan, he endeavoured to explain what he was unable to do in the council; and stated to them, that at the prairie he would give his ideas fully to the chiefs, and hoped to be able to make a more favourable report than captain Lewis had done, of their treatment to him. The former of these chiefs was the son of him who had remained all winter near the station, and had treated the men left there well. They endeavoured to excuse their people from the charges made against them.

After leaving the river St. Peter's, they endeavoured to find the cave which Carver mentions, but in vain. The interpreter, who had been many times up the Mississippi, knew nothing of it.

As they were passing some lodges of Indians, a few miles below the St. Peter's, Mr. Pike received a particular invitation to go on shore, where he was kindly received, presented with sugar, &c. A dram was given in return; and when the party were departing, the owner of the lodge they had been in, demanded a kettle of liquor. On being refused, when the party left the shore, the Indian called out, and said, he did not like the arrangements which had been made, and would go to war in the summer. The interpreter was told to inform him, that if Mr. Pike returned to St. Peter's with the troops, he would then settle that affair with him.

On arriving at the St. Croix, they found the Petit Corbeau with his people, Mr. Frazer and Mr. Woods. In a conference which they had, the Petit Corbeau made many apologies for the disorderly conduct of his people. He said that his young warriors wanted to go to war, and that he had been much blamed for dismissing his party last fall; but, that he was determined to adhere, as far as he could, to Mr. Pike's wishes, and thought it best to remain where he was, and endeavoured to restrain the warriors. He presented his beaver robe and pipe, with a message to the general, that he was determined to preserve peace, and make the road clear; also, as a remembrance of his promised medal. To this a reply was made calculated to confirm him in his good intentions; and assuring him, that although not present, he would not be less remembered by his father than those that were.

Here Mr. Pike learned that Mordock Cameron, contrary to the directions of his licence, sold liquor to the Indians, on the river St. Peter's; also, that his partner was acting with equal imprudence below. They were by this conduct the cause of much disorder, and great injury to the traders.

The trees were these, beginning to put forth their buds, and there was a very perceptible difference in climate between this place and the falls of St. Anthony.

Accompanied by Messrs. Frazer and Woods, they came to a band of the Aisle Rouge, about two o'clock. Here they received the usual salute, and held a council, where the chief expressed more detestation than any other had done, at the conduct of those Indians which had been met with near the mouth of St. Peter's. He gave assurances, in very unequivocal terms, that he who fired on the centinel, and those who threatened to kill Mr. Pike should, if he thought proper, be killed. He said there were many chiefs above with whom he wished to speak, and hoped Mr. Pike would remain one day, when all the Sioux would be down, and he should have the command of 1000 men. But, perhaps, he would not think it an honour, although the British had flattered his nation by being proud to have them for soldiers. To this a general reply was made in which he was informed, that the bad conduct of two or three individuals would not obliterate the sense entertained of the good treatment which the party had received from the Sioux nation. That, in a general council, Mr. Pike would more fully explain himself. As for the man who fired on the centinel, had he been at the station, the Sioux should never more have been troubled with him, for he should have been killed on the spot. His young men did not do so, least they should give offence to their commander. Remaining a day with them would be of no service, and he was anxious to be with the general below, who expected him; the state of his provisions also demanded the utmost expedition, as his men must eat. The chief replied, that as the lake Pepin was yet closed, if the party proceeded and encamped on the ice, it would not supply them with provision. He would send out all his young men the next day, and if the other bands did not then arrive, he would go with the party on the day following. Mr. Pike finally agreed to spend one day here, which gave great satisfaction to the Indians. He was invited to different feasts; at one of which he was entertained by an Indian whose father was created a chief by the Spaniards. Here he saw a man, whom the French call 'Roman-Nose,' and the Indians 'the Wind that walks,' who was formerly the second chief of the Sioux; but being the cause of a trader's death about seven years ago, he voluntarily resigned his dignity, and has frequently requested to be given up to the whites. He was now determined to go to St. Louis and deliver himself up for execution. His long and sincere repentance, and the great confidence the nation places in him, will, no doubt, be considered as sufficient reasons for pardoning the offence. This opinion, however, Mr. Pike kept from his knowledge.

Here Mr. Pike received a letter from Rollet, the partner of Mr. Cameron, with a present of some brandy, coffee and sugar. Being the partner of the person whom it became Mr. Pike's duty to prosecute for an infraction of the laws of the United States respecting the trade with the Indians, payment was offered for the articles, though of trifling value. Two of the men, who were sent to put down some fishing lines, overset the canoe, and would have been drowned, but for the exertions of the Indians, who rescued them, carried them into their lodges, undressed, and treated them with great humanity and kindness. At this place, Mr. Pike learned that the savage who had threatened to take his life, had actually cocked his gun for the purpose of shooting him from behind the hills, but was prevented by the others. The Indians not arriving on the day they were expected, Mr. Pike, with Messrs. Woods and Frazer, ascended a high hill called the Barn, from which they had a view of lake Pepin, the valley of the Mississippi, the Cannon river and the hills between which it flows.

Early on the morning of the 15th Mr. Pike embarked, much to the astonishment of the Indians.

ishment of the Indians, who were then fully prepared for the council. After some conversation with Mr. Fraser, who remained later, they acknowledged it was according to a previous decision, and he was not blameable for so doing. Indeed experience had taught the advantage of a rigid regard to truth in all intercourse with the Indians. Although the Abbe Rouge had a beaver cloak and pipe prepared, he had, for the present, to retain it. About nine leagues below lake Pepin, they passed some hills which have the appearance of fortifications.

They arrived at the prairie des Chiens on the 18th April, where Mr. Pike took up his quarters with Mr. Fisher. His men received a present of a barrel of pork from Mr. Campbell, and about twenty loaves of bread and some meat from Mr. Fisher.

Here were a number of chiefs, Reynolds, Sioux de Moine, &c. also some Winebagoes, who had brought with them the murderers of some white men, in order to deliver them up to Mr. Pike. The next day six canoes arrived from the upper part of the St. Peter's river, with the Yankton chiefs from the upper part of that river. The appearance of these Indians was more savage than that of any other they had met with. Notice was given to the Puants, that Mr. Pike had business to do with them the day following. A band of the Gens de Lac also arrived.

A council was held here with the chiefs of the Paunch Indians, and those of the nation who had recently committed some murders were demanded. They requested until the day following (the 21st) to determine on the conduct proper for them to pursue.

In the afternoon a great game of cross was played on the prairie, between the Sioux on one side, and the Reynolds on the other. It is played with a ball made of some hard substance covered with leather, and cross sticks, which have a round part covered with net work and a handle three feet in length. The parties being ready, and the bets made, sometimes to the amount of many thousand dollars, the goals are set up on the prairie, at the distance of half a mile. The ball is then thrown up in the middle; when each party endeavours to drive it to the opposite goal, and round the post which is there fixed. The ball is then, again carried to the middle, and the contest repeated, until one of the parties wins four times, which determines the game. It is an interesting sight, to thus behold two or three hundred naked savages contending on the plain. The one who drives the ball round the pole is highly applauded by his companions. Sometimes he who catches the ball in his racket, depending on his swiftness in running, endeavours to carry it to the goal; and, if he finds himself to closely pursued, hurls it forward with all his strength, to an astonishing distance, where both sides have their flanking parties, ready to receive it. They often keep the ball passing in the air for hours before the victory declares for either party. In the game played here, the Sioux were the victors, more from their skill and dexterity in throwing the ball, than their swiftness of foot.

Mr. Pike made a demand in writing of the magistrates to take depositions respecting the murders recently committed, and had a private conference with Wabasha.

On the 21st he was sent for by the chief le Peuille, who stated the jealousy with which his nation generally regarded their chief. Although it might get him the displeasure of some of the Sioux, he had no hesitation in saying, that the *Nex Corbeau* was the most sensible man among them; in which light he believed him to be generally viewed. After this interview he was sent for by the *Red Thunder*, chief of the Yanktons, the most savage band of the Sioux. This chief was found prepared with the most elegant pipes and robes. He declared that white blood had never been used in the village of the Yanktons, even when rum was permitted. That Mor-

dock Cameron arrived at his village in the preceding autumn, when he invited him to eat.—He gave him corn, as a bird. That Cameron informed him of the prohibition of liquor, but was afterwards the only person who sold it in the village. After holding another council with the Puants, Mr Pike spent the evening with Mr. Wilmot, one of the well informed gentlemen of this place.

On the 22d another council was held with the Sioux and Puants, when the latter gave up their medals and flags.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

Communicating information of the effect of gun-boats in the protection and defence of harbours; of the numbers thought necessary; and of the proposed distribution of them among the ports and harbours of the United States: in compliance with a resolution of the house of representatives of the 5th Feb. 1807.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

IN compliance with the request of the house of representatives expressed in their resolution of the 5th instant, I proceed to give such information, as is possessed, of the effect of the gun boats in the protection and defence of harbours, of the numbers thought necessary, and of the proposed distribution of them among the ports and harbours of the United States.

Under present circumstances, and governed by the intentions of the legislature, as manifested by their annual appropriations of money for the purposes of defence, it has been concluded to combine, 1st, land batteries, furnished with heavy cannon and mortars, and established on all the points around the place favourable for preventing vessels from lying before it; 2d, moveable artillery, which may be carried, as occasion may require, to points unprovided with fixed batteries; 3d, floating batteries; and 4th, gun boats, which may oppose an enemy at his entrance, and co-operate with the batteries for his expulsion.

On this subject professional men were consulted as far as we had opportunity. General Wilkinson, and the late General Gates, gave their opinions in writing, in favour of the system, as will be seen by their letters now communicated. The higher officers of the navy gave the same opinions, in separate conferences, as their presence at the seat of government offered occasions of consulting them, and no difference of opinion appeared on the subject. Those of commodore Barron and captain Tingey, now here, are recently furnished in writing, and transmitted herewith to the legislature.

The efficacy of gun boats for the defence of harbours, and of other smooth and inclosed waters, may be estimated, in part, from that of gallees, formerly much used, but less powerful, more costly in their construction and maintenance, and requiring more men. But the gun boat itself is believed to be in use with every modern maritime nation, for the purposes of defence. In the Mediterranean on which are several small powers, whose system, like ours, is peace and defence, few harbours are without this article of protection. Our own experience there of the effect of gun boats, for harbour service, is recent. Algiers is particularly known to have owed, to a great provision of these vessels, the safety of its city, since the epoch of their con-

struction. Before that, it had been repeatedly insulted and injured. The effect of gun boats, at present, in the neighbourhood of Gibraltar, is well known, and how much they were used, both in the attack and defence of that place, during a former war. The extensive resort to them, by the two greatest naval powers in the world, on an enterprize of invasion not long since in prospect, shews their confidence in their efficacy, for the purposes for which they are suited. By the northern powers of Europe, whose seas are particularly adapted to them, they are still more used. The remarkable action, between the Russian flotilla of gun boats and galleys, and a Turkish fleet of ships of the line and frigates, in the Liman sea (in 1788), will be readily recollected. The latter, commanded by their most celebrated admiral, were completely defeated, and several of their ships of the line destroyed.

From the opinions given, as to the number of gun boats necessary for some of the principal seaports, and from a view of all the towns and ports from New Orleans to Maine inclusive, entitled to protection, in proportion to their situation and circumstances, it is concluded that, to give them a due measure of protection in times of war, about two hundred gun boats will be requisite. According to first ideas, the following would be their general distribution; liable to be varied, on more mature examination, and as circumstances shall vary; that is to say,

To the Mississippi and its neighbouring waters, forty gun boats.

To Savannah and Charleston, and the harbours on each side, from St. Mary's to Curratuck, twenty-five.

To the Chesapeake, and its waters, twenty.

To Delaware bay and river, fifteen.

To New York, the Sound, and waters as far as Cape Cod, fifty.

The flotillas assigned to these several stations might each be under the care of a particular commandant, and the vessels composing them would, in ordinary, be distributed among the harbours within the station, in proportion to their importance.

Of these boats, a proper proportion would be of the larger size, such as those heretofore built, capable of navigating any seas, and of reinforcing occasionally the strength even of the most distant ports, when menaced with danger. The residue would be confined to their own, or the neighbouring harbours, would be smaller, less furnished for accommodation, and consequently less costly. Of the number supposed necessary, seventy-three are built or building, and the hundred and twenty-seven still to be provided, would cost from 5 to 600,000 dollars. Having regard to the convenience of the treasury, as well as to the resources for building, it has been thought that the one half of these might be built in the present year, and the other half the next. With the legislature, however, it will rest to stop where we are, or at any further point, when they shall be of opinion that the number provided shall be sufficient for the object.

At times, when Europe, as well as the United States, shall be at peace, it would not be proposed that more than six or eight of these vessels should be kept afloat. When Europe is in war, treble that number might be necessary, to be distributed among those particular harbours, which foreign vessels of war are in the habit of frequenting, for the purpose of preserving order therein. But they would be manned in ordinary, with only their complement for navigation, relying on the seamen and militia of the port, if called into action, on any sudden emergency. It would be only when the United States should themselves be at war, that the whole number would be brought into active service, and would be ready, in the first moments of the war, to co-operate, with other means, for covering at once the line of our seaports. At all times, those unemployed would be withdrawn into places not exposed to sudden enterprise, hauled up under sheds covered from the sun and

weather, and kept in preservation with little expense for repairs and maintenance.

It must be superfluous to observe, that this species of naval armament is proposed merely for defensive operations; that it can have but little effect towards protecting our commerce in the open seas, even on our own coast; and still less can it become an excitement to engage in offensive maritime war, towards which it would furnish no means. TH: JEFFERSON.

February 10, 1807.

Extract of a letter from Gen. Horatio Gates to Thomas Jefferson, Esq. dated October 19, 1804.

"DEAR SIR,
I am charmed with your instituting gun-boats, for I believe them to be the properest defence for large harbours that has been hitherto imagined; these co-operating with small batteries of heavy guns, upon the projecting heights near the water, are much better, and infinitely less expensive, than fixed and large fortifications. The French, who are the best judges of artillery and engineering of any nation in Europe, adopt this plan of defending their harbours: the effects of it are too well known in England. I know not if you have seen a publication which appeared in Paris in May 1803, entitled *Lettres d'un Observateur sur la Marine*, it is well worth your perusal; much useful information may be derived from it for the defence of our harbours and our astonishingly increasing commerce. a paltry frigate dare not then insult us, as has been and now is done in the harbour of New-York.

A letter from Gen. James Wilkinson to Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, dated Washington, December 10, 1804.

I regret that a variety of interruptions and engagements should have so long prevented my attention to the subject you did me the honour to mention to me.

On turning it in my mind, the idea occurred to me that your proposition could not be better ascertained than by an examination of the system of defence heretofore adopted for our towns and harbours, and a comparative view of its merits, with those of the plan which you recommend. I have yielded to this suggestion, and shall be happy if the manner or matter of the enclosed reflections should meet your approbation, as they are for you and at your disposal only.

You will also find under cover an extract from the reflections of the Marquis of Santa Cruz, an author of great respectability, who wrote early in the last century, from which you will perceive galleys, in other words gun-boats, have been long held in high estimation.

I have only to add, sir, that these observations were committed to paper on the day of their date, and that I have not been able to have them copied sooner, so inadequate are my means to my duties.

With great consideration and respect, I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

[NOTE.—This letter was only the cover of Gen. Wilkinson's opinion, and therefore shows only in general terms what that was. The opinion itself was on a separate paper communicated to a committee of the house of representatives, and was read to the house for their information.]

A letter from Commodore S. Burtin to Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, dated Washington, February 8, 1807.

SIR,
In consequence of a conversation I had the honour to hold with you yesterday, on the subject of gun-boats, I venture to state my reasons for suppo-

ing them the proper kind of vessels to afford the most effectual means of defence and annoyance within the bays and rivers of the United States.

The small draft of water enables them to take such positions, as to attack, in a measure with impunity, vessels of any size, and are enabled to approach or retire, as may best suit to discomfit the enemy and protect themselves.

My residence having been always near the Chesapeake, enables me to remark more particularly on the effect of gun-boats opposed to ships within the capes of Virginia.

The middle ground, the Horse Shoe, and Willoughby's Point, are proper positions for gun-boats to take to repel attempts to enter the bay and James river. York spit affords the same advantage in preventing an entry into that river, and near each river is a flat which affords a safe position to annoy, without fearing the near approach of large ships. Ten or twelve of these boats would probably be sufficient to compel to remove from her position a frigate, and so on in proportion to the size and number of the enemies ships. To do more than annoy would be difficult. With those vessels a great number and a long time would be necessary to capture a ship of war; but few commanders would feel secure while open to the attack of an enemy, which, however inferior, he could not destroy. An attempt to board might be better opposed by small arms, cutlasses, &c. and in case of the necessity of retreat, the small rivers adjacent, &c. would be found of easy access to the boats, and inaccessible to the enemy. I do suppose that twenty gun-boats stationed in Hampton roads and its vicinity, would be sufficient to repel any predatory attack in that quarter, and be very formidable to a larger force. It is impossible for me to enlarge on this subject, being incapable of estimating the force which might be brought in opposition to this mode of defence. I can recollect perfectly the manner and by what means 2 small boats belonging to the state of Virginia, during the revolutionary war, often intercepted, almost under the guns of large ships, the supplies which were frequently attempted to be afforded them. This was done by means of a light draught of water, and good sailing. They were, however, deficient of heavy cannon. The gun-boats building under my direction are so constructed, as to sail fast and to mount one heavy cannon, and can, if necessary, mount some smaller guns in the waist, so that they can be used in attack on privateers or ships of war, and are competent to an employment (during summer) on the sea-coast, where the inlets will generally admit them in case of tempestuous weather, or the necessity of retreat from a superior force.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

SAMUEL BARRON.

The efficacy of gun-boats in the defence of coasts, ports, and harbours, must be obvious to every person capable of reflection; when it is considered with what celerity they can generally change their position and mode of attack, extending it widely to as many different directions as their number consists of, or concentrating nearly to one line of direction. It hardly need be observed, that the very small object which a gun-boat presents to the attacking enemy, causes it always problematical whether it may be hit by the most expert and experienced marksmen; while on the other hand the enemy attacking is generally with large ships, mostly of the line of battle and which from their magnitude may be struck by almost every shot. The advantages of gun-boats for the defence contemplated are numerous; they cannot easily be assailed, by the force of the enemy, what it may; consequently very few, if any, are likely to fall into the enemy's hands. Their capability of retiring into shoal water, thereby keeping the adversary at long gunshots distance, where he might but a change of single rounds would reach, in which they will almost always have the advantage, or taking their station

behind shoals, where they cannot be pursued by the smallest class of frigates, or even of sloops of war. And in many cases they may have opportunity of annoying an enemy when sheltered themselves by low points of land, where nought but their masts can be seen; of course in a situation comparatively safe, when that of the enemy is considered.

Such indeed is believed to be the great utility of gun-boats for defence, that notwithstanding the gigantick power of the British navy, in its present state, a judicious writer in the *British Naval Chronicle*, after advising a plan for raising a fleet of 150 or 200 gun-boats to assist in repelling the threatened invasion of that country, says, "A gun-boat has this advantage over a battery on shore, that it can be removed at pleasure from place to place, as occasion may require, and a few such vessels, carrying heavy guns, would make prodigious havoc among the enemy's flat-bottomed boats, crowded with soldiers."—Respecting those particular ports and harbours in the United States, which may be defended, or essentially assisted in being defended by gun-boats, it is believed they would essentially assist in the defence of all the principal ports in our country. For the only place where gun-boats could be of no avail, must be such a one where the enemy under sail could advance, uninterrupted by shoals, rocks, or narrow channels, to the immediate point of attack within pistol-shot of the shore.

The above cursory observations are respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

THOMAS TINGEY.

Navy-Yard, Washington, Feb. 9, 1807.

By THOMAS JEFFERSON,

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION.

DURING the wars which, for some time, have unhappily prevailed among the powers of Europe, the United States of America, firm in their principles of peace, have endeavoured by justice, by a regular discharge of all their national and social duties, and by every friendly office their situation has admitted, to maintain with all the belligerents, their accustomed relations of friendship, hospitality, and commercial intercourse. Taking no part in the questions which animate these powers against each other, nor permitting themselves to entertain a wish but for the restoration of general peace, they have observed with good faith the neutrality they assumed, and they believe that no instance of a departure from its duties can be justly imputed to them by any nation. A free use of their harbours and waters, the means of refitting and refreshment, of succour to their sick and suffering, have, at all times, and on equal principles, been extended to all, and this too amidst a constant recurrence of acts of insubordination to the laws, of violence to the persons, and of trespasses on the property of our citizens, committed by officers of one of the belligerent parties received among us. In truth these abuses of the laws of hospitality have, with few exceptions, become habitual to the commanders of the British armed vessels hovering on our coasts, and frequenting our harbours. They have been the subject of repeated representations to their government. Assurances have been given that proper orders should restrain them within the limit of the rights and of the respect due to a friendly nation; but those orders and assurances have been without effect; no instance of punishment for past wrongs has taken place. At length a deed, transcending all we have hitherto seen or suffered, brings the publick sensibility to a serious crisis, and our forbearance to a necessary pause. A frigate of the United States, trusting to a

state of peace, and leaving her harbour on a distant service, has been surprised and attacked by a British vessel of superiour force, one of a squadron then lying in our waters and covering the transaction, and has been disabled from service, with the loss of a number of men killed and wounded.

This enormity was not only without provocation or justifiable cause, but was committed with the avowed purpose of taking by force, from a ship of war of the United States, a part of her crew; and that no circumstance might be wanting to mark its character, it had been previously ascertained that the seamen demanded were native citizens of the United States. Having effected his purpose, he returned to anchor with his squadron within our jurisdiction. Hospitality, under such circumstances, ceases to be a duty: and a continuance of it, with such uncontrolled abuses, would tend only, by multiplying injuries and irritations, to bring on a rupture between the two nations. This extreme resort is equally opposed to the interests of both, as it is to assurances of the most friendly dispositions on the part of the British government, in the midst of which this outrage has been committed. In this light the subject cannot but present itself to that government, and strengthen the motives to an honourable reparation of the wrong which has been done, and to that effectual control of its naval commanders, which alone can justify the government of the United States in the exercise of those hospitalities it is now constrained to discontinue.

In consideration of these circumstances, and of the right of every nation to regulate its own police, to provide for its peace and for the safety of its citizens, and consequently to refuse the admission of armed vessels into its harbours or waters, either in such numbers or of such descriptions as are inconsistent with these, or with the maintenance of the authority of the laws, I have thought proper in pursuance of the authorities specially given by law to issue this my PROCLAMATION, hereby requiring all armed vessels bearing commissions under the government of Great-Britain, now within the harbours or waters of the United States, immediately and without any delay to depart from the same, and interdicting the entrance of all the said harbours and waters to the said armed vessels, and to all others bearing commissions under the authority of the British government.

And if the said vessels, or any of them, shall fail to depart as aforesaid, or if they or any others, so interdicted, shall hereafter enter the harbours or waters aforesaid, I do in that case forbid all intercourse with them or any of them, their officers or crews, and do prohibit all supplies and aid from being furnished to them or any of them.

And I do declare and make known, that if any person from, or within the jurisdictional limits of the United States shall afford any aid to any such vessel, contrary to the prohibition contained in the Proclamation, either in repairing any such vessel, or in furnishing her, her officers or crew, with supplies of any kind, or in any manner whatsoever, or if any pilot shall assist in navigating any of the said armed vessels, unless it be for the purpose of carrying them in the first instance beyond the limits and jurisdiction of the United States, or unless it be in the case of a vessel forced by distress, or charged with public dispatches as hereinafter provided for, such person or persons shall on conviction, suffer all the pains and penalties by the laws provided for such offences.

And I do hereby enjoin and require all persons bearing office civil or military within or under the authority of the United States, and all others, citizens or inhabitants thereof, or being within the same, with vigilance and promptitude to exert their respective authorities, and to be aiding and assisting to the carrying this Proclamation, and every part thereof into full effect.

Provided nevertheless that if any such vessel shall be forced into the harbours or waters of the United States by distress, by the dangers of the sea, or by the pursuit of an enemy, or shall enter them charged with dispatches or business from their government, or shall be a publick packet for the conveyance of letters and dispatches, the commanding officer immediately reporting his vessel to the collector of the district, stating the object or causes of entering the said harbours or waters, and conforming himself to the regulations in that case prescribed under the authority of the laws, shall be allowed the benefit of such regulations respecting repairs, supplies, stay, intercourse and departure as shall be permitted under the same authority.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same.

Given at the city of Washington the second day of July in the year of [U.S.] our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven, and of the sovereignty and independence of the United States the thirty-first.

TH: JEFFERSON.

By the President,

JAMES MADISON, Secretary of State.

DOCUMENTS

*Accompanying a Message from the President of the United States,
December 2, 1806.*

(COPY.)

Natchitoches, August 5, 1806

SIR,

It has been reported to me for several days past, that a large body of the troops of the king of Spain had assembled near the Sabine, and were about to cross that river, and I am just informed that this body has crossed the said river and taken post within the territory of the United States. It has therefore become my duty to address you on this subject—To demand an explicit avowal of the object of this movement—To insist on this body of troops being immediately withdrawn; and to warn you of the consequences which may result from its continuance within the territory of the United States.

It is well known, that the government of the United States and the king of Spain are at this moment negotiating on the subject of the boundaries of Louisiana; and there cannot be a doubt, but an amicable adjustment of existing differences will soon take place.

The reinforcements which have lately reached this post are only intended as a security to the territory actually surrendered to us, and which we consider as extending to the Sabine. There is no disposition on the part of the United States to commit hostilities on the troops or possessions of Spain: But we cannot suffer aggressions on our territory; and should you persist in making them, you will be justly chargeable with all the consequences which such conduct is calculated to produce. I have only to add, that, if you should think proper to remove the Spanish troops to the west side of the Sabine and continue them there, no attempt will be made on the part of the United States to interrupt that friendship and harmony which ought to subsist between neighbouring nations: But, if you should attempt to continue these troops within the territory of the United States, after this explicit and

friendly warning, it will be my duty to consider you as an invader of our territory, and to act accordingly.

This letter will be handed to you by major Moses Porter, of the artillery of the United States, who will wait a reasonable time for your reply, which, if convenient, I hope may be accompanied by an English or French translation, to enable me to ascertain its contents with greatest certainty. The major will be attended by one non-commissioned officer, and one private soldier of the army of the United States.

I avail myself of this opportunity of tendering my best wishes for your health, happiness, and honour, and am, sir,

With respectful consideration,

Your obedient servant,

T. H. CUSHING,

Colonel, commanding a detachment of the army of the United States.

To Colonel HERRERA,—Or officer commanding the troops of the king of Spain on the east side of the Sabine.

Plantation of Mr. Prudhomme, 6th August, 1806.

SIR,

WITH all possible respect, I answer your excellency's letter, which was delivered to me at this place by Moses Porter, major of artillery of the United States.

It is true that I have crossed the Sabine river, with a detachment of troops belonging to the king, with orders from the captain-general, (by whom I am governed) to keep this territory from all hostile attempts, as belonging from time immemorial to the king, and which is a dependence of the province of Texas. The inhabitants still acknowledge obedience to our government, notwithstanding the violence committed on a small detachment of our troops by those of the United States.

From this moment I hold myself responsible to the real ruler of the orders that govern me, which are, by no pretext whatsoever to interrupt or break the good intelligence which subsists between his majesty and the United States; but I cannot permit, without violating my duty, any usurpation upon the land he possesses. If your excellency makes any infringement, you alone will be answerable to the two courts, and may interrupt the amicable convention, perhaps now on foot, but of which I have no knowledge.

I did not send a translation of this in French or English, not having any person capable of translating, with purity, a thing of so serious a nature.

I felicitate myself of this opportunity in offering my best services.

Your very humble servant,

(Signed)

SIMON DE HERRERA.

SEÑOR DON THOMAS CUSHING,
commander of a detachment of
the army of the United States.

Natchitoches, August 26th, 1806.

SIR,

ON my arrival at this post, I learned with certainty that a considerable Spanish force had crossed the Sabine, and advanced within the territory

claimed by the United States. It was hoped, sir, that pending the negotiations between our respective governments, for an amicable adjustment of the limits of Louisiana, that no additional settlements would be formed, or new military positions assumed by either power within the disputed territory; a policy which a conciliatory disposition would have suggested, and justice sanctioned; but since a contrary conduct has been observed on the part of certain officers of his catholic majesty, they alone will be answerable for the consequences which may ensue.

The above proceeding, sir, is not the only evidence of an unfriendly disposition which certain officers of Spain have afforded; I have to complain of the outrage lately committed by a detachment of Spanish troops acting under your instructions, toward Mr. Freeman and his party, who were ascending the Red river, under the orders of the President of the United States. Mr. Freeman and his associates were navigating waters which pass through the territory ceded by France to the United States; they were navigating a river on which the French had formerly made settlements far beyond the place where they were arrested; a fact of great notoriety, and in support of which, the testimony of several citizens residing at and near the post of Natchitoches can be adduced.

But nevertheless, Mr. Freeman and his party were assailed by a battalion of Spanish troops, and commanded to return; a proceeding the more exceptionable, since the objects of Mr. Freeman, were merely scientific, having in view nothing hostile to Spain; objects which were long since communicated by me to his excellency the marquis of Casa Calvo, and which through him, I presume, must have been made known to the government of the province of Texas.

This detachment of Spanish troops, whose movements I learn are directed by your excellency, did, on their march, commit another outrage towards the United States, and of which it is my duty to ask an explanation. In the Caddo nation of Indians the flag of the United States was displayed, and commanded from the chief, and warriors, all the respect and veneration, to which it is entitled. But your troops are stated to have cut down the staff on which the pavillion waved, and to have menaced the peace and safety of the Caddos, should they continue their respect for the American government, or their friendly intercourse with the citizens of the United States.

I experience the more difficulty, in accounting for this transaction, since it cannot be unknown to your excellency, that while Louisiana appertained to France, the Caddo Indians were under the protection of the French government, and that a French garrison was actually established in one of their villages; hence it follows, sir, that the cession of Louisiana to the United States, "with the same extent which it had when France possessed it," is sufficient authority for the display of the American flag in the Caddo village, and that the disrespect which that flag has experienced, subjects your excellency to a serious responsibility.

I am unwilling to render this communication unnecessarily lengthy, but I must complain of another outrage, which has been committed under the eyes of your excellency. Three citizens of the United States, of the names of Shaw, Irvine, and Brewster, were seized by Spanish soldiers, within twelve miles of Natchitoches, and have been sent prisoners to Nacogdoches. I cannot suppose that this proceeding is unknown to your excellency, and I should be wanting in duty, did I not avail myself of the present occasion, to demand information as to the cause of their arrest and detention. There is still another subject on which I must address your excellency. It is reported to me, that several slaves, the property of citizens of the United States, have lately escaped from the service of their masters, and sought and found an asylum at Nacogdoches: I have seen the corre-

pondence between your excellency and judge Turnier upon this subject, and I learn your determination to await the orders of the governour general of the province of Texas; I will forbear, therefore, for the present, to press their immediate delivery to the order of their masters, but I must urge your excellency to discourage for the future, the escape of slaves from this to your territory, and I request that such as may repair to the bounds of your command, may be forthwith returned. Your excellency will readily perceive the cause of my solicitude on this subject. If fugitive slaves are to receive the protection of the Spanish authorities, the property of the citizens of this territory is indeed insecure, and a good understanding between our two governments ought not, and cannot be preserved. During the last year I had a correspondence with his excellency the marquis of Cassa Calvo, (who was then at New Orleans) relative to some negroes who had escaped to Nacogdoches, and in consequence of the interference of the marquis, I am led to believe that they were restored; I was since officially informed by the marquis, that his conduct on the occasion was approved by his catholic majesty, and I consequently concluded that the mischief was at an end. It cannot, I presume, be unknown to the officers of his catholic majesty, that ministers from the United States have repaired to Spain, for the avowed purpose of amicably adjusting the existing differences: I should greatly regret, therefore, if any occurrences in this quarter should prevent that amicable arrangement, which the interest of each nation would advise. But if the officers of Spain should persist in their acts of aggression, your excellency will readily anticipate the consequences; and if the sword must be drawn, let those be responsible, whose unfriendly conduct has rendered it indispensable.

Col. Henry Hopkins, the adjutant general of the militia of this territory, will have the honour to deliver to your excellency this communication, and to await your answer.

I tender to your excellency the assurances of my great respect, and high consideration.

(Signed)

WM. C. C. CLAIBORNE.

His excellency Governour Herrera,

Or the officer commanding a detachment of Spanish troops at or near the settlement of Bayou Pierre.

(COPY.)

SIR,

THE troops of the king, my master, which I have the honour to command, on this side of the Sabine, have no other object but to maintain good harmony between the United States and his majesty, and to preserve inviolate the territory which belongs to him.

Major Freeman was navigating the Red river on that part of the territory which never belonged to the province of Louisiana; now appertaining to the United States, for which reason he was notified by the commandant of the troops to retrograde as far back as the country that did belong to them. I agree with your excellency, that all the territory which his catholic majesty ceded to France, belongs to the United States, but the Caddo Indians are not on that land, but at a great distance from it, and live now on the territory of Spain; for which reason it was notified to them, that if they choose to live under the government of the United States, they must go to the territory under their jurisdiction; but if they desired to remain where

they were, it was required of them to take down the American flag. They consented not to abandon their village; but being more tardy than was conceived they might have been, in pulling down the flag, they (the Spaniards) were obliged to do it by force.

The reason why I detained the three citizens of the United States was, because they were found, and on different days, observing, our positions and movements, and three several times that I questioned them, I observed they did not agree, as to their motives of visiting the place, but finally one of them told me they wished to establish themselves under the government of the king at St. Antoine, which determined me to send them to the governor of the province with an escort, as well on account of the distance of the road, as for having rendered themselves suspected persons. The detention of the runaway negroes of Louisiana at Nacogdoches, is an affair in suspense before the captain general of this province, who likewise will have knowledge of the motives why those were sent back whom your excellency cited. And for the better security of the matter, I shall send your letter which I received by colonel Hopkins, and who likewise will be the bearer of this.

The troops of the king, neither from disposition nor character, will ever co-operate directly or indirectly in encouraging the emigration of negro slaves. For my part I assure your excellency that those I command will commit no hostility, which can frustrate the negotiations now pending between our courts; but if I am provoked to it I shall endeavour to preserve the honour of my troops, and to fulfil the obligations with which I am invested, a duty which my character and that of my subalterns demands.

I avail myself of this opportunity to offer your excellency my respect and consideration.

(Signed)

SIMON M. HERRERA.

Spanish Camp, August 28, 1806.

His Excellency governor Wm. C. C. CLAIBORNE.

(COPY.)

Natchitoches, Aug. 31, 1806.

SIR,

BY the return of colonel Hopkins I am honoured with your excellency's reply to my communication of the 26th instant.

I continue of opinion that the advance of Spanish troops within a territory claimed by the United States, is evidence of an unfriendly disposition; nor can I perceive any thing in your excellency's letter, which can justify or extenuate the offensive conduct observed towards Mr. Freeman and his associates, or the indignity offered in the Caddo nation to the American flag.

You have not denied, sir, that the French, when in possession of Louisiana, had established a garrison on Red river, far beyond the place where Mr. Freeman and his associates were arrested on their voyage, or that the Caddo Indians were formerly considered as under the protection of the French government. The silence of your excellency on these points, proceeds probably from a knowledge on your part of the correctness of my statements. I shall, however, touch no further on these transactions in my correspondence with your excellency, but will hasten to lay the same before the President of the United States, who will know what measures to direct when wrongs are offered to the American nation. I cannot, however, refrain from expressing my displeasure at the arrest and detention, under your excellency's orders, of three citizens of the United States, Shaw, Irvine, and Brewster; they are charged with no offense that would warrant

imprisonment and transportation to St. Antonio. A state of actual war between our two nations could not have justified your conduct towards those unoffending citizens. I can venture to assert that the suspicions of your excellency, as to the objects of Shaw, Irvine, and Brewster, are unfounded; they certainly would have no particular inducements to notice the positions or movements of your troops. The fact, I believe, is, that these men were desirous of gratifying their curiosity, and wished your excellency's passports to visit St. Antonio. Under this impression, and from the circumstance that they were within the territory claimed by the United States, I deem it my duty to demand their release and speedy restoration to their country. It cannot be supposed that the distance to St. Antonio, or their personal convenience, occasioned the escort which attended them; they appear, on the contrary, to have been treated by your excellency as state prisoners, and as such, I have information of their having passed through Nacogdoches under a strong guard. Your excellency will recollect, that the subjects of his catholic majesty are daily in the habit of visiting the post of Natchitoches, and cannot but observe the position and movements of the American troops; they, however, are permitted to pass without molestation. A friendly and innocent intercourse between the citizens of the one and the subjects of the other power, has not as yet been interdicted by this government. I am persuaded therefore, that your excellency will see that the arrest of Shaw, Irvine, and Brewster, was premature, and that their detention is highly improper. I have no personal knowledge of these three men; they are American citizens, and of course under the protection of the government of the United States. In the name of that government therefore, I do now demand their release, and that they be restored to their country as soon as possible.

Pending the negotiations between our respective governments, I could wish that hostilities should not commence in this quarter; but if provoked to it by the unjust aggressions of the forces of his catholic majesty, the troops of the United States will endeavour to maintain their own and their country's honour.

Lieut. Dufrest, of the American army, is charged with the delivery of this letter to your excellency, and to bear me such answer as you may think proper to return.

I renew to your excellency the assurances of my respectful consideration.

(Signed)

WM. C. C. CLAIBORNE.

His excellency Governour Herrera.

Extract of a letter from General Wilkinson to the Secretary of war, dated

Head Quarters, Natchitoches, October 4, 1806.

"I YESTERDAY morning received governour Cordero's answer to my address of the 24th ultimo, copies of which you have under cover.

"The varied style of this letter, when contrasted with those of governour Herrera to colonel Cushing and governour Claiborne, combined to the circumstance of the Spanish troops having re-crossed the Sabine, to a man, has induced me, on the ground of economy, and expediency also, to discharge the militia who had reached this place, and to countermand those under march; excepting about 100 dragoons and mounted infantry, whom I shall retain in service (until I am apprized of the determination of the captain general Salceda) to watch the movements of our neighbours."

*Head Quarters of the army of the United States,
Natchitoches, Sept. 24, 1806.*

SIR,

AFTER the recent communications which have passed between his excellency governour Herrera, colonel Cushing, and governour Claiborne, and his reiterated repulsion of their reasonable and rightful demands; I will confess to your excellency, that naught but the very high and solemn obligations, which I owe to humanity, could vanquish the repugnance with which I now have the honour to address you; on a topick profoundly interesting to our respective nations, inasmuch as it may involve a question of peace or war.

The differences of opinion which have prevailed concerning the contested limits of Louisiana having been submitted to amicable negotiations by our respective sovereigns; the appeal to rational enquiry is an admission of the dubiousity of the right, and therefore, should prevent any change of military positions, posterior to the delivery of the provinces of Louisiana to the United States.

The government of the American union, founded in right, and conducted by reason, has been instructed by the history of other times how to value the blessings of peace, and being unambitious of conquest, or military fame, is desirous to preserve a fair and friendly understanding with all the powers of the earth.

Thus circumstanced, and under daily expectations of a favourable issue to the depending negotiations, it would mark a sanguinary spirit, and be a most ungracious, and unwarrantable deed, were the military officers of either government by an act of precipitancy, to frustrate the benevolent views of pacifick discussion; and make way for the commencement of hostilities, whose final issue may baffle human foresight, but whose probable consequences would be scenes of revolution and bloodshed, offensive to humanity, and subversive of the general policy of nations.

In this state of things, I am ready to pledge myself, that pending the negotiations of the two countries, nothing shall be attempted against his catholic majesty's subjects, or territories, by the troops under my command; unless his officers should attempt, as they have already done, to innovate the "statagus" at the surrender of the province, by occupying new ground, or erecting new posts, or unless they should trespass on the rights of the citizens, or violate the sovereignty of these states; the former conduct will compel counter movements and occupancies, and the latter will not only justify recrimination, but will infallibly excite it, and thus hostilities may be produced, notwithstanding the peaceful dispositions of the high powers, to whom we are respectively accountable.

When the troops of the United States took possession of this post, the Spanish commandant from whom it was received, did not define the limits of his jurisdiction; yet it was notorious that Nacogdoches formed the barrier post of the approximate province of Texas. It was known also, that controversies had existed between France and Spain, respecting the western limits of Louisiana, and we have been assured by Monsieur Laussett, the French commissioner, who delivered the province to the United States, that the pretensions of France went as far west as the Redel Norte; but we were not informed that any line of demarkation had ever been traced to partition these provinces.

Whether such a line of territorial jurisdiction had ever been established or not, between the provinces of Louisiana and Texas, one had been rendered indispensable, by the sale of the former to the United States; for the administration of justice, the security of property, and the prevention of hos-

tile collisions ; and these states, with pretensions far more extensive, adopted the Sabine river as the most obvious, most convenient, most natural, and best exceptionable, temporary boundaries.

I am therefore, sir, commanded by the President of the United States, to inform you, "that the actual quiet possession of the country by the United States, east of the river Sabine ought and will be considered as fully within the limits of the country surrendered to the United States, on taking possession of this place, and therefore any attempt on the part of his catholic majesty's officers to disturb the existing state of things, by endeavouring to occupy any new post east of the Sabine, or westward or northward of the former boundaries, of what has been called West Florida, must be considered by the government of the United States, as an actual invasion of their territorial rights, and will be resisted accordingly." And while I submit these commands to your grave consideration, in the hope they may have due weight, it becomes my duty to demand from you the withdrawal of the troops of Spain to the west of the Sabine.

My sense of the high respect which is due from one old soldier to another, prohibits the idea of menace, but as our honour forbids stratagem or deception, before our swords have been drawn, I owe it to my own fame, and to the national character, to warn you, that the ultimate decision of the competent authority has been taken, that my orders are absolute and my determination fixed to assert, and (under God) to sustain, the jurisdiction of the United States to the Sabine river, against any force which may be opposed to me.

Retire then sir, I conjure you, the troops of your command from the ground in controversy, and spare the effusion of human blood, without prejudicing your own honour, or the substantial interest of his majesty, your royal master.

Colonel Thomas H. Cushing, chief des etats major of the army of the United States, has my orders to deliver this letter to you, and to wait a reasonable time for your answer.

I pray God to keep your excellency in his holy protection for many years, and have the honour to be,

Your most obedient
And humble servant,

JAMES WILKINSON.

Mis Excellency Governour *Cordero*,
chief in command of the troops of
Spain, on the western frontier of
the province of Texas.

Nacogdoches camp, Sept. 29, 1806.

EXCELLENT SIR,

BY the hands of colonel Thomas Cushing, chief of the general staff of the United States army, I have had the honour yesterday to receive you excellency's letter, written from your head quarters, at Natchitoches.

Being authorised to enter into a discussion of the serious and interesting matters on which you treat, I hope your excellency will excuse me for transmitting your letter with the utmost celerity to the hands of the captain general brigadier Nimesio Saleedo, under whose orders I act ; and I shall transmit to your excellency his answer, in the same manner, by the hands of an officer of my staff.

While thus acting, I have the honour to offer to your excellency my respects and consideration, praying God to keep you alive many years.

I am, sir, your excellency's most humble and obedient servant,

(Signed)

ANTONIO CORDERO.

His excellency Don JAMES WILKINSON, governour of Louisiana, and general of the army of the United States of America.

Extract of a letter from General Wilkinson to the secretary of war, dated

"Natchitoches, October 21st, 1806.

"Accidental causes having detained the bearer, I am enabled to transmit you under cover the answer of governour Cordero, to my note of the 4th inst. of which a copy has been forwarded, and a duplicate will accompany this.

"I send you a literal copy of the governour's letter, in place of a very imperfect translation, which however serves to remove all doubts of the continued pretensions of the Spaniards to extend their jurisdiction to the Avoya Fonda, within seven miles of this post, and confirms my determination to advance to the Sabine, for which point my arrangements being completed, I shall march to morrow morning; but agreeably to the idea expressed in a former letter, I intend to propose to the Spanish commander the withdrawal of our troops, respectively, to the points of occupancy at the period of the surrender of the province to the United States, and in case of his refusal I shall be governed by circumstances.

"I am informed the captain general Saleedo, was to be at Nacogdoches on the 22nd proximo."

Head quarters, Natchitoches, October 4th, 1806.

SIR,

I HAVE had the honour to receive your excellency's letter of the 29th ultimo, by colonel Cushing, and shall expect the answer of his excellency the captain general Saleedo, with solicitude.

In the mean time I shall move forward towards the Sabine, and to prevent the misinterpretation of my motives, I consider it proper to apprise you, that this movement is made solely to demonstrate the pretensions of the United States to the territory east of that river, and with no hostile intentions against the troops or realms of Spain.

This step has been rendered essential to the honour of the United States, by the late movements and occupancies of his excellency governour Herrera and it is also justified by the position which the troops of your excellency's command have recently taken immediately on the western bank of the Sabine, sixty miles advanced of Nacogdoches.

I avail myself of a casual, but certain conveyance to transmit this letter to your excellency, and I pray God to keep you in his holy protection for many years.

(Signed)

JAMES WILKINSON.

His excellency Antonio Cordero, commander in chief of the troops of Spain on the eastern frontier of the province of Texas.

MESSAGE

Of the President of the United States, containing the Communication to both Houses of Congress, at the commencement of the first session of Tenth Congress, October 27, 1807.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

CIRCUMSTANCES, fellow citizens, which seriously threatened the peace of our country, have made it a duty to convene you at an earlier period than usual. The love of peace so much cherished in the bosom of our citizens, which has so long guided the proceedings of their councils, and induced forbearance under so many wrongs, may not ensure our continuance in the quiet pursuits of industry. The many injuries and depredations committed on our commerce & navigation upon the high seas, for years past, the successive innovations on those principles of public law, which have been established by the reason and usage of nations, as the rule of their intercourse, and the umpire and security of their rights and peace, and all the circumstances which induced the extraordinary mission to London, are already known to you. The instructions given to our ministers were framed in the sincerest spirit of amity and moderation.—They accordingly proceeded, in conformity therewith, to propose arrangements which might embrace and settle all the points in difference between us; which might bring us to a mutual understanding on our neutral and national rights, and provide for a commercial intercourse on conditions of some equality. After long and fruitless endeavours to effect the purposes of their mission, and to obtain arrangements within the limits of their instructions, they concluded to sign such as could be obtained and to send them for consideration, candidly declaring to the other negociators at the same time, that they were acting against their instructions, and that their government therefore could not be pledged for ratification. Some of the articles proposed might have been admitted on a principle of compromise, but others were too highly disadvantageous, and no sufficient provision was made against the principal source of the irritations and collisions which were constantly endangering the peace of the two nations. The question therefore, whether a treaty should be accepted in that form, could have admitted but of one decision, even had no declarations of the other party impaired our confidence in it. Still anxious not to close the door against friendly adjustments, new modifications were framed, and further concessions authorised, than could before have been supposed necessary, and our ministers were instructed to resume their negociations on these grounds.

On this new reference to amicable discussion, we were reposing in confidence, when on the 22d day of June last, by a formal order from a British admiral, the frigate Chesapeake, leaving her port for a distant service, was attacked by one of those vessels which had been lying in our harbours under the indulgences of hospitality, was disabled from proceeding, had several of her crew killed, and four taken away.—On this outrage no commentaries are necessary. Its character has been pronounced by the indignant voice of our citizens with an emphasis and unanimity never exceeded. I immediately by proclamation interdicted our harbours and waters to all British armed vessels, forbade intercourse with them, and, uncertain how far hostilities were intended, and the town of Norfolk being indeed threatened with immediate at-

tack, a sufficient force was ordered for the protection of that place, and such other preparations commenced and pursued as the prospect rendered proper. An armed vessel of the United States was dispatched with instructions to our ministers at London to call on that government for the satisfaction and security required by the outrage. A very short interval ought now to bring the answer, which shall be communicated to you as soon as received: then also, or as soon after as the publick interests shall be found to admit, the unratified treaty and proceedings relative to it, shall be made known to you.

The aggression thus begun, has been continued on the part of the British commanders by remaining within our waters in defiance of the authority of the country, by habitual violations of its jurisdiction, and at length by putting to death one of the persons whom they had forcibly taken from on board the Chesapeake. These aggravations necessarily lead to the policy either of never admitting an armed vessel into our harbours, or of maintaining in every harbour such an armed force as may constrain obedience to the laws, and protect the lives and property of our citizens against their armed guests; but the expense of such a standing force, and its inconsistency with our principles, dispense with those courtesies which would necessarily call for it, and leave us equally free to exclude the navy as we are the army of a foreign power, from entering our limits.

To former violations of maritime rights another is now added of very extensive effect. The government of that nation has issued an order interdicting all trade by neutrals between ports not in amity with them, and being now at war with nearly every nation on the Atlantic and Mediterranean seas, our vessels are required to sacrifice their cargoes at the first port they touch, or to return home without the benefit of going to any other market. Under this new law of the ocean, our trade on the Mediterranean has been swept away by seizures and condemnations, and that in other seas is threatened with the same fate.

Our differences with Spain remain still unsettled, no measure having been taken on her part, since my last communications to Congress, to bring them to a close.—But under a state of things, which may favour reconsideration, they have been recently pressed, and an expectation is entertained that they may now soon be brought to an issue of some sort. With their subjects on our borders, no new collisions have taken place, nor seem immediately to be apprehended. To our former grounds of complaint has been added a very serious one, as you will see by the decree, a copy of which is now communicated. Whether this decree, which professes to be conformable to that of the French government of Nov. 21, 1806, heretofore communicated to Congress, will also be conformed to that in its construction and application in relation to the United States, had not been ascertained at the date of our last communications. These, however, gave reason to expect such a conformity.

With the other nations of Europe, our harmony has been uninterrupted, and commerce and friendly intercourse have been maintained on their usual footing.

Our peace with the several states on the coast of Barbary appears as firm as at any former period, and as likely to continue as that of any other nation.

Among our Indian neighbours, in the north-western quarter, some fermentation was observed soon after the late occurrences threatening the continuance of our peace. Messages were said to be interchanged, and tokens to be passing, which usually denote a state of restlessness among them, and the character of the agitators pointed to the sources of excitement;—measures were immediately taken for providing against that danger: instructions were given to require explanations, and, with assurances of our continued friendship, to admonish the tribes to remain quiet at home, taking no part in quarrels not belonging to them. As far as we are yet informed, the tribes in our view

ity, who are most advanced in the pursuits of industry, are sincerely disposed to adhere to their friendship with us, and to their peace with all others; while those, more remote, do not present appearances sufficiently quiet to justify the intermission of military precaution on our part.

The great tribes on our south-western quarter, much advanced beyond the others in agriculture and household arts, appear tranquil and identifying their views with ours in proportion to their advancement. With the whole of these people in every quarter, I shall continue to inculcate peace and friendship with all their neighbours, and perseverance in those occupations and pursuits which will best promote their own well being.

The appropriation of the last session for the defence of our seaport towns and harbours, were made under expectation that a continuance of our peace would permit us to proceed in that work according to our convenience. It has been thought better to apply the sum then given towards the defence of New-York, Charleston, and New-Orleans chiefly, as most open and most likely first to need protection, and to leave places less immediately in danger to the provisions of the present session.

The gun-boats already provided have, on a like principle, been chiefly assigned to New-York, New-Orleans and the Chesapeake. Whether our moveable force on the water, so material in aid of the defensive works on the land, should be augmented in this or any other form, is left to the wisdom of the legislature. For the purpose of manning these vessels in sudden attacks on our harbours, it is a matter for consideration whether the seamen of the United States may not justly be formed into a special militia, to be called on for tours of duty, in defence of the harbours where they shall happen to be, the ordinary militia of the place furnishing that portion which may consist of landsmen.

The moment our peace was threatened I deemed it indispensable to secure a greater provision of those articles of military stores, with which our magazines were not sufficiently furnished. To have awaited a previous and special sanction by law, would have lost occasions which might not be retrieved. I did not hesitate, therefore, to authorise engagements for such supplements to our existing stock, as would render it adequate to the emergencies threatening us; and I trust that the legislature, feeling the same anxiety for the safety of our country so materially advanced by this precaution, will approve, when done, what they would have seen so important to be done, if then assembled.—Expenses, also unprovided for, arose out of the necessity of calling all our gun-boats into actual service for the defence of our harbours, of all which accounts will be laid before you.

Whether a regular army is to be raised, and to what extent, must depend on the information so shortly expected. In the mean time, I have called on the states for quotas of militia to be in readiness for present defence; and have moreover, encouraged the acceptance of volunteers; and I am happy to inform you, that these have offered themselves with great alacrity in every part of the union; they are ordered to be organized, and ready at a moment's warning, to proceed on any service to which they may be called, and every preparation within the executive powers, has been made to ensure us the benefit of early exertions.

I informed Congress at their last session of the enterprizes against the publick peace, which were believed to be in preparation by Aaron Burr and his associates, of the measures taken to defeat them, and to bring the offenders to justice: their enterprizes were happily defeated by the patriotic exertions of the militia, wherever called into action, by the fidelity of the army and energy of the commander in chief, in promptly arranging the difficulties presenting themselves on the Sabine, repairing to meet those arising

on the Mississippi, and dissipating, before their explosion, plots engendering there. I shall think it my duty to lay before you the proceedings and the evidence publicly exhibited on the arraignment of the principal offenders before the district court of Virginia. You will be enabled to judge whether the defect was in the testimony, in the law, or in the administration of the law : and wherever it shall be found, the legislature alone can apply or originate the remedy. The framers of our constitution certainly supposed they had guarded, as well their government against destruction by treason, as their citizens against oppression under pretence of it ; and if these ends are not attained, it is of importance to inquire by what means more effectually they may be secured.

The accounts of the receipts of revenue during the year ending on the 30th day of September last, being not yet made up, a correct statement will be hereafter transmitted from the treasury, in the mean time it is ascertained that the receipts have amounted to nearly sixteen millions of dollars, which, with the 5 millions and an half in the treasury at the beginning of the year, have enabled us, after meeting the current demands, and interest incurred, to pay more than four millions of the principal of our funded debt. — These payments, with those of the preceding five and an half years, have extinguished of the funded debt twenty-five millions and a half of dollars, being the whole which could be paid or purchased within the limits of the law, and of our contracts, and have left us in the treasury 8 millions and a half of dollars. A portion of this sum may be considered as a commencement of accumulation of the surpluses of revenue, which, after paying the instalments of debt, as they shall become payable, will remain without any specific object. It may partly, indeed, be applied towards completing the defence of the exposed points of our country on such a scale as shall be adapted to our principles and circumstances.

This object is, doubtless, among the first entitled to attention, in such a state of our finances : and it is one which, whether we have peace or war, will provide security where it is due. Whether what shall remain of this, with the future surpluses, may be usefully applied to purposes already authorised or more usefully to others requiring new authorities, or how otherwise they shall be disposed of, are questions calling for the notice of Congress : unless indeed they shall be superseded by a change in our publick relations, now awaiting the determination of others. Whatever be that determination, it is a great consolation that it will become known at a moment when the supreme council of the nation is assembled at its post, and ready to give the aids of its wisdom and authority to whatever course the good of our country shall then call us to pursue.

Matters of minor importance will be the subject of future communications ; and nothing shall be wanting on my part, which may give information or dispatch to the proceedings of the legislature in the exercise of their high duties, and at a moment so interesting to the publick welfare.

TH : JEFFERSON.

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 1807.

DOCUMENTS.

Note communicated by lord Howick to Mr. Monroe, dated January 10, 1807.

THE undersigned, his majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs, has received his majesty's commands to acquaint Mr. Monroe, that the

French government, having issued certain orders, which, in violation of the usages of war, purport to prohibit the commerce of all neutral nations with his majesty's dominions, and also to prevent such nations from trading with any other country in any articles, the growth, produce or manufacture of his majesty's dominions; and the said government having also taken upon itself to declare all his majesty's dominions to be in a state of blockade, at a time when the fleets of France and her allies are themselves confined within their own ports by the superior valour and discipline of the British navy;

Such attempts on the part of the enemy, giving to his majesty an unquestionable right of retaliation, and warranting his majesty in enforcing the same prohibition of all commerce with France, which that power vainly hopes to effect against the commerce of his majesty's subjects, a prohibition which the superiority of his majesty's naval forces might enable him to support, by actually investing the ports and coasts of the enemy with numerous squadrons and cruisers, so as to make the entrance or approach thereto manifestly dangerous:

His Majesty, though unwilling to follow the example of his enemies by proceeding to an extremity so distressing to all nations not engaged in the war, and carrying on their accustomed trade; yet feels himself bound by a due regard to the just defence of the rights and interests of his people not to suffer such measures to be taken by the enemy, without taking some steps on his part, to restrain this violence, and to retort upon them the evils of their own injustice. Mr. Monroe is therefore requested to apprise the American consuls and merchants residing in England, that his majesty has therefore judged it expedient to order that no vessel shall be permitted to trade from one port to another, both which ports shall belong to, or be in possession of France or her allies, or shall be so far under their control as that British vessels may not freely trade thereat: and that the commanders of his majesty's ships of war and privateers have been instructed to warn every neutral vessel, coming from any such port, and destined to another such port, to discontinue her voyage, and not to proceed to any such port; and every vessel, after being so warned, or any vessel coming from any such port, after a reasonable time shall have been afforded for receiving information of this his majesty's order, which shall be found proceeding to another such port, shall be captured and brought in, and together with her cargo, shall be condemned as lawful prize; and that from this time all the measures authorised by the law of nations, and the respective treaties between his majesty and the different neutral powers will be adopted and executed, with respect to vessels attempting to violate the said order after this notice.

(Signed)

HOWICK.

*Downing street, Jan.
10, 1807.*

TRANSLATION.

BY the greatest outrage against humanity and against policy, Spain was forced by Great Britain to take part in the present war. This power has exercised over the sea and over the commerce of the world an exclusive dominion. Her numerous factories, disseminated through all countries, are like sponges, which imbibe the riches of those (countries) without leaving them more than the appearances of mercantile liberty. From this maritime

and commercial despotism, England derives immense resources for carrying on a war, whose object it is to destroy the commerce which belongs to each state, from its industry and situation. Experience has proven that the morality of the British cabinet has no hesitation as to the means, so long as they lead to the accomplishment of its designs: and whilst this power can continue to enjoy the fruits of its immense traffick, humanity will groan under the weight of a desolating war. To put an end to this, and to attain a solid peace, the emperor of the French and king of Italy, issued a decree on the 21st of November last, in which, adopting the principle of reprisals, the blockade of the British Isles is determined on; and his ambassador, his excellency Francis de Beauharnois, grand dignitary of the order of the iron crown, of the legion of honour, &c. &c. having communicated this (decree) to the king our master; and his majesty being desirous to co-operate by means sanctioned by the rights of reciprocity, has been pleased to authorize his most serene highness the prince generalissimo of the marine, to issue a circular of the following tenour.

“As soon as England committed the horrible outrage of intercepting the vessels of the royal marine, insidiously violating the good faith with which peace assures individual property, and the rights of nations, his majesty considered himself in a state of war with that power, although his royal soul suspended the promulgation of the manifesto until he saw the atrocity, committed by its seamen, sanctioned by the government of London. From that time, and without the necessity of warning the inhabitants of these kingdoms, of the circumspection with which they ought to conduct themselves towards those of a country, which disregards the sacred laws of property, and the rights of nations; his majesty made known to his subjects the state of war, in which he found himself with that nation. All trade, all commerce, is prohibited in such a situation, and no sentiments ought to be entertained towards such an enemy, which are not dictated by honour, avoiding all intercourse which might be considered as the vile effects of avarice, operating on the subjects of a nation, which degrades itself in them. His majesty is well persuaded that such sentiments of honour are rooted in the hearts of his beloved subjects, but he does not choose on that account to allow the smallest indulgence to the violators of the law, nor permit that, through their ignorance, they should be taken by surprise, authorising me by these presents to declare that all English property will be confiscated, whenever it is found on board a vessel, although a neutral, if the consignment belongs to Spanish individuals. So likewise will be confiscated all merchandize which may be met with, although it may be in neutral vessels, whenever it is destined for the ports of England or her Isles. And, finally, his majesty conforming himself to the ideas of his ally the emperor of the French, declares in his states the same law which from principles of reciprocity, and suitable respect, his imperial majesty promulgated under date of the 21st November, 1806.

The execution of this determination of his majesty, belongs to the chiefs of provinces, of departments, and of vessels (baxeles) and communicating it to them in the name of his majesty, I hope they will leave no room for the royal displeasure.

God preserve you many years.

Aranjuez, 19th Feb-
ruary, 1807.

THE PRINCE GENERALISSIMO
OF THE MARINE.”

A DECREE

of the King of Holland, passed August 28th, 1807, relative to Neutral Commerce.

LOUIS NAPOLEON; by the Grace of God, and the Constitution, King of Holland,

Considering that, consistently with the true interest of our Kingdom, it is our intention to co-operate by every means in our power towards the wished for result of the great measures adopted by his Majesty the Emperor and King, for the attainment of a general peace and the independence of the seas,—considering that some subaltern Agents have been guilty of weakness and neglect in the execution of the measures prescribed by our Decree of 15th October 1806,—considering the dexterity and perfidy with which the Papers of neutral Vessels are imitated in some of the Enemy's ports and even the Bills of Health, at the risk of the health of Europe,—considering, lastly, that all these irregularities ought to cease, at a moment so critical for the enemy of the whole Continent, and particularly for the commercial Nations, and that the honour and the dearest interests of our subjects would be endangered by a deviation from the strictest execution of the laws, and Decrees existing on this important subject ;

We have decreed and enact as follows :—

1st. The agents, arrested according to the order of our ministers of justice and police, shall be brought before the competent courts of justice and tried according to law.

2d. Concerning the vessels detained in our ports, of which a list accompanies the present, sentence shall be pronounced by the competent courts of justice with the greatest rigour.

3d. All the inward bound vessels, from the date of the promulgation of the present Decree, shall be obliged to give a double security, which shall remain in force till the legality of the papers are fully acknowledged, and that it is proved that the same vessels have not touched at any enemy's port.

4th. In case it should be proved that the papers were false, or that, contrary to the declaration of the captain, the vessel had touched at an enemy's port, the double security shall be levied immediately on the bondsman, and the amount thereof paid into the publick treasury.

5th. As soon as the security shall have been regulated, the vessel may begin discharging in presence of persons appointed thereto by the minister of finance, who will take care that the owner discharge no goods which are suspected to be English wares.

6th. In case it should be proved, that the goods were really of English manufacture, or came from an enemy's port, the same shall not only be confiscated for the benefit of the publick treasury, but the double security shall likewise be levied without delay, and the vessel be obliged to proceed to sea immediately; and in case of bad weather, no permission shall be granted her to remain, but under the strictest precautions—namely a guard, and the most vigilant cognizance.

7th. All correspondences, journals, &c. which come through neutral territory, shall be seized and burnt.

8th. All passengers or travellers, not being able to prove that they are not come from the British islands, shall be immediately ordered out of the country.

9th. All prohibitory regulations concerning the trade with England, remain in full force, in so far as they are not altered by the present Decree.

10th. All those who violate the present regulations, shall be tried, and punished as opposing the laws of the kingdom.

11th. Our minister of finance is alone personally answerable for the strict execution; our ministers of war and marine shall hold at his disposal the detachments of Hussars, Gend'armes, of Infantry, together with boats and armed vessels, which he may demand of them.

12th. Our ministers of marine, of finance, and of war, are charged each in as far as it concerns him, with the execution of the present Decree.

Given on the 28th of August, 1807, being the second year of our reign.

Signed,

LOUIS.

On the part of the King,

W. F. ROELL, Sec'y of State.

REPORT

*Of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, commu-
nicated to Congress, November 6, 1807.*

In obedience to the directions of the act supplementary to the act intitu-
led "An act to establish the Treasury Department," the secretary of the
treasury respectfully submits the following report and estimates.

REVENUE and RECEIPTS.

The nett revenue arising from duties on merchandize and tonnage which
accrued during the year 1805, amounted to

14,333,138

And that which accrued during the year 1806, amounted as will
appear by the statement (A) to

15,575,424

The same revenue, after deducting that portion which arose
from the duty on salt, and from the additional duties con-
stituting the Mediterranean fund, amounted during the year
1805, to

11,320,332

And during the year 1806, to

14,809,758

It is ascertained, that the nett revenue which has accrued during the
three first quarters of the year 1807, exceeds that of the corresponding
quarters of the year 1806; and that branch of the revenue arising exclusively
of the duty on salt, and of the Mediterranean fund, both of which expire on
the 1st day of January next, be safely estimated for the present, if no
change takes place in the relation of the United States with foreign nations,
at fourteen millions of dollars.

The statement (B.) exhibits in detail, the several species of merchandize
and other sources from which the revenue was collected during the year
1806.

It appears by the statement (C) that the sales of the publick lands have
during the year ending on the 30th September, 1807, exceeded 284,000
acres.—Some returns are not received; and the proceeds of sales in the
Mississippi Territory being, after deducting the surveys and other incidental
expenses, appropriated in the first place to the payment of a sum of
\$250,000 dollars to the state of Georgia, have not been included, but are
distinctly stated. The actual payments by purchasers have during the
same period, exceeded 680,000 dollars; and the receipts into the treasury
from that source may, after deducting charges and the 5 per cent. reserved for
roads, be estimated for the ensuing year, at 600,000 dollars for main land.

The receipts arising from the permanent revenues of the United States
may, therefore, without including the duties on postage & other incidental

branches, be computed for the year 1808 at 14,500,000
 And the payments into the treasury during the same year, on account of the salt and Mediterranean duties previously accrued, are estimated at one million three hundred thousand dollars 1,300,000
 Making in the whole an aggregate of fifteen millions eight hundred thousand dollars 15,800,000

Last Quarter of the Year 1807,

The balance in the treasury which, on the 30th of Sept. 1806 amounted to 5,496,969 dollars 77 cents, did on the 30th, of Sept. 1807, amount to 8,630,000

The receipts into the treasury from the 1st of October to the 31st day of December 1807, are estimated at 4,000,000
 12,530,000

The expenses during the same period for all objects whatever, the publick debt excepted, and including 686,076 dollars for the extraordinary expenditures of the Navy Department, of which the estimate has been transmitted, are estimated at 1,700,000

The ordinary payments on account of the publick debt, including the provision for the interest on the Louisiana and Dutch debt to the 1st of July 1808, are estimated at 1,700,000

A further sum of about 1,500,000 dollars should also be paid during this quarter, in order to complete the annual appropriation of eight millions of dollars. If the whole of this sum which is applicable to the purchase of the eight per cent. stock, cannot be expended this year, the unexpended balance will form an additional expenditure for the year 1808, charging however the whole to this quarter, 1,500,000

Making an aggregate of 4,900,000 dollars and will leave in the Treasury at the close of the year a balance of about seven millions six hundred thousand dollars, 7,630,000

12,530,000

Expenditures of the Year 1808.

The permanent expenses calculated on a peace establishment are estimated at 11,600,000 dollars, and consist of the following items, viz.

1. For the civil department, and all domestick expenses of a civil nature including invalid pensions, the light house, and mint establishments, the expenses of surveying publick lands and the sea coast, the fifth installment of the loan due to Maryland, and a sum of 100,000 dollars to meet such miscellaneous appropriations, not included in the estimates, as may be made by Congress, 1,192,000
 2. For expenses incident to the intercourse with foreign nations including the permanent appropriation for Algiers, 200,000
 3. For the military and Indian department, including trading houses and the permanent appropriation for certain Indian tribes, 1,280,000
 4. For the naval establishment, 1,020,000
 5. The annual appropriation of eight millions of dollars for the payment of the principal and interest of the publick debt, of which sum not more than 3,400,000 dollars will for the year 1808 be applicable to the payment of interest, 8,000,000
- 11,600,000

To the permanent expense must be added for the year 1809 a sum of about 800,000 dollars, necessary in addition to the annual appropriation of eight millions of dollars, to enable on the 1st of January, 1809, the reimbursement of the 5 per cent. stock, 800,000

And for paying the balance of American claims, assumed by the French convention, 200,000

Making altogether 12,600,000 for the expenses of the year, 12,600,000

The receipts of the year having been estimated at 15,800,000

And the probable balance in the Treasury on the 1st of January next at 3,700,000

Making all together 23,300,000

Would therefore probably leave in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1809, a balance of near eleven millions of dollars, 10,800,000

23,300,000

PUBLIC DEBT.

It appears by the statement (D.) that the payments on account of the principal of the public debt, have, during the year ending the 30th day of September, 1807, exceeded 4,600,000 dollars, making the total of public debt reimbursed from the 1st of April, 1801, to the 31st of October, 1807, about 25,880,000 dollars, exclusively of more than six millions, which have been paid during the same period, in conformity with the provisions of the treaty of amity concluded with Great Britain and of the Louisiana convention.

Of the twelve millions of dollars, which, according to the preceding estimates, may be paid on account of the public debt, between the 30th September, 1807, and the 1st January, 1809, about eight millions will be payment of the principal. It must, however, be observed, that the unexpired term of the debt, may affect the amount payable during the year 1809, on account of both principal and interest, in proportion as long as the

On the 1st day of January, 1809, the principal of the debt, will, if the proposed modification be not assented to by the public creditors, amount to near fifty-seven millions five hundred thousand dollars. The subsequent annual payments thereon, on account of principal and interest, will not consist of occasional payments, exceed 4,600,000 dollars, and the whole of the debt, the nineteen millions of three per cents stock only excepted, will be reimbursed in 16 years.

The payments would amount to eight millions of dollars annually, during six years, and average less than three millions during the following 10 the end of which period the whole debt would be extinguished.

An unimpaired and unappropriated surplus of at least three millions of dollars, may henceforth be relied upon with great confidence. The receipts of the year 1808 have been estimated at 15,600,000 and the expenses at 13,100,000 dollars. The permanent revenue has been computed at 24,500,000 dollars, and the permanent expenses predicted on the annual payment of eight millions of dollars on account of the debt, have been stated at 16,600,000 dollars, and as this would, if no modification of the debt should take place, be reduced to less than 8,500,000, the annual surplus would then amount to six millions of dollars. Nor are the seven millions and one half of dollars, which

remain in the treasury at the end of the present year, included in the calculation.

What portion of that surplus may be wanted for necessary measures of security and defence; what portion should be applied to internal improvements, which, whilst increasing and diffusing the national wealth, will strengthen the bonds of union, are subjects which do not fall within the province of the Treasury Department—but it is not impossible, that after making ample provision for both these objects, considerable surpluses, which can no longer be applied, to the redemption of the debt, may still accumulate in the treasury.

The previous accumulation of treasury in time of peace might, in a great degree, defray the extraordinary expences of war, and diminish the necessity of either loans or additional taxes. It would provide, during periods of prosperity, for those of adverse events, to which every nation is exposed, instead of increasing the burdens of the people at a time when they are least able to bear them, or of impairing by anticipations the resources of ensuing generations:—and the public monies of the United States, not being locked up and withdrawn from the general circulation; but on the contrary deposited in banks, and continuing to form a part of the circulating medium, the most formidable objection to that system, which has nevertheless been at times adopted with considerable success in other countries, is thereby altogether removed. It is also believed, that the renewal of the charter of the Bank of the United States may, among other advantages, afford to government an opportunity of obtaining interest on public deposits, whenever they shall exceed a certain amount.

Should the United States, contrary to their expectation and desire, be involved in war, it is believed that the receipts of the year 1808 will not be materially affected by the event, inasmuch as they will principally arise from the revenue accrued during the present year. The amount of outstanding bonds due by importers, after deducting the debentures issued on account of re-exportations, exceeds, at this time, sixteen millions of dollars. The decisions to be made from these on account of subsequent re-exportations, would, in case of war, be less than usual; for exportations will then be checked, as well as importations, and in proportion as these will decrease, a greater home demand will be created for the stock on hand, and the necessity of re-exporting be diminished.

It has already been stated, that the specie in the treasury at the end of this year, together with the surpluses of the year 1808, will amount to near eleven millions of dollars—a sum probably adequate to meet the extraordinary expences of the war for that year. It will also be recollected, that in the estimated expences of the year 1808, the reimbursement of near five millions and a half of the principal of the debt is included. The only provision therefore which may render any contingency necessary for the extraordinary service of that year, in order to cover any deficiency of revenue or increase of expences beyond what has been estimated, will be an authority to borrow a sum equal to that reimbursement.

That the resources of the United States will, in subsequent years, be considerably impaired by a war, neither can or ought to be concealed.—It is the contrary necessary in order to be prepared for the crisis, to take a full view of the subject, and to examine the resources which should be applied for supplying the deficiency, and defraying the extraordinary expences.

There are no data from which the extent of the defalcation can at this moment be calculated, or approximated. It will be sufficient to state, that that it is probable that extraordinary expences, at least equal to the annual expences on a peace establishment, the interest of the existing debt, and the

interest on the loans which may be raised. 2. That those expenses, together with the interest of the debt, will, after the year 1808, amount to a sum less than seven millions of dollars, and therefore that if the present revenue of 14,500,000 dollars shall not be diminished more than one half by the war, it will still be adequate to the object, leaving only the interest of war loans to be provided for.

Whether taxes should be raised to a greater amount, or loans be altogether relied on for defraying the expenses of the war, is the next subject of consideration.

Taxes are paid by the great mass of the citizens, and immediately affect almost every individual of the community. Loans are supplied by capitals previously accumulated by a few individuals. In a country where the resources of individuals are not generally and materially affected by war, it is practicable and wise to raise by taxes the greater part at least of the annual supplies. The credit of the nation may also, from various circumstances, be at times so far impaired as to leave no resource but taxation. In both respects the situation of the United States is totally dissimilar.

A maritime war will, in the United States, generally and deeply affect, whilst it continues, the resources of individuals, as not only commercial profits will be curtailed, but principally because a great portion of the surplus of agricultural produce necessarily requires a foreign market. The reduced price of the principal articles exported from the United States will operate more heavily than any contemplated tax. And without inquiring whether a similar cause may not still more deeply and permanently affect a nation at war with the United States, it seems to follow, that so far as relates to America, the losses and privations caused by the war should not be aggravated by taxes beyond what is strictly necessary. An addition to the debt is doubtless an evil; but experience having now shewn with what rapid progress the revenue of the union increases in time of peace, with what facility the debt formerly contracted has, in a few years, been reduced, a hope may confidently be entertained that all the evils of the war will be temporary and easily repaired, and that the return of peace will, without any effort, afford ample resources for reimbursing whatever may have been borrowed during the war.

The credit of the United States is also unimpaired either at home or abroad, and it is believed that loans to a reasonable amount may be obtained on eligible terms. Measures have been taken to ascertain to what extent this may be effected abroad; and it will be sufficient here to suggest, that the several banks of the United States may find it convenient after the ensuing year, and as the diminished commerce of the country may require less capital, to loan to government a considerable portion of their capital stock, now computed at about sixty millions of dollars.

It might be premature to enter into a particular detail of the several branches of revenue which may be selected, in order to provide for the interest of war loans, and to cover deficiencies in case the existing revenue should fall below seven millions of dollars. A general enumeration seems at present sufficient.

1. Not only the duty on salt and the Mediterranean duties may be immediately revived; but the duties on importation generally may, in case of war, be considerably increased, perhaps doubled, with less inconvenience than would arise from any other mode of taxation. Without resorting to the example of other nations, experience has proven that this source of revenue is in the United States the most productive; the easiest to collect, and the least burthensome to the great mass of the people. In time of war the danger of smuggling is diminished, the certainty of foreign articles prevents the duty ever falling on the importer; the establishments precisely those members of the community who are best able to pay the duty; and the in-

crease of Domestic Manufactures which may be indirectly affected, is in itself a desirable object.

2. Indirect taxes, however ineligible, will doubtless be cheerfully paid as war taxes, if necessary. Several modifications of the system formerly adopted, might, however, be introduced, both in order to diminish some of the inconveniences which were experienced, and particularly to ensure the collection of the duties.

3. Direct taxes are liable to a particular objection arising from the unavoidable inequality produced by the general rule of the constitution. Whatever difference may exist between the relative wealth, and consequent ability of paying, of the several states, still the tax must necessarily be raised in proportion to their relative population. Should it, however, become necessary to resort to that resource, it is believed that the tax raised upon that species of property in each state which, by the state laws, is liable to taxation, as had originally been contemplated by congress, would be preferable to a general assessment laid uniformly on the same species of property in all the states, as was ultimately adopted.

All which respectfully submitted.

ALBERT GALLATIN, *Secretary of the Treasury.*
Treasury Department, Nov. 5, 1807.

BRITISH PROCLAMATION.

BY THE KING.

A Proclamation for recalling and prohibiting Seamen from serving Foreign Princes and States.

GEORGE R.—Whereas it hath been represented unto us, that great numbers of marines and seafaring men, our natural-born subjects, have been enticed to enter into the service of foreign states, and are now actually serving as well on board the ships of war belonging to the said foreign states; as on board the merchant vessels belonging to their subjects, notwithstanding our former Proclamation recalling them, contrary to the duty and allegiance which our said subjects owe unto us, and to the great disservice of their native country; we have therefore thought it necessary at the present moment, when our kingdom is menaced and endangered, and when the maritime rights, on which its power and greatness do mainly depend, are disputed and called in question, to publish, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, this our Royal Proclamation:—

We do hereby strictly charge and command all masters of ships, pilots, mariners, shipwrights, and other seafaring men being our natural-born subjects, who may have been enticed into the pay or service of any foreign state, or do serve in any foreign ship or vessel, that, forthwith, they and every of them do (according to their bounden duty and allegiance, and in consideration that their native country hath need of all their services) withdraw themselves, and depart from, and quit such foreign services, and do return home to their native country; nor do enter on board such of our ships of war as they may chance to fall in with, either on the high seas, or in any rivers, waters, harbours, roads, ports, or places whatsoever, or whatsoever;

And, for the better execution of the purposes of this our Royal Proclamation, we do hereby and command all captains, masters, and others commanding our ships and vessels of war, by stop and take staff of all and every such person or persons (being our natural-born subjects) who shall endeavour to transport or take themselves into the service of any foreign state, contrary to the intent and command of this our royal proclamation, and to seize upon, take,

and bring away all such persons as aforesaid, who shall be found to be employed or serving in any foreign merchant ship or vessel as aforesaid:—but we do strictly enjoin all such our captains, masters, and others, that they do permit no man to go on board such ships and vessels belonging to the states at amity with us for the purpose of so seizing upon, taking, and bringing away such persons as aforesaid, for whose discreet and orderly demeanour the said captains cannot answer; and that they do take especial care that no unnecessary violence be done or offered to the vessel, or to the remainder of the crew, from out of which such persons shall be taken.

And in case of their receiving information of any such person or persons being employed, or serving on board of any ship of war belonging to such foreign state, being in a state of amity with us, we do authorize and command our captains, masters, and others, commanding our ships of war, to require of the captain or commander of such foreign ship of war, that he do forthwith release and discharge such person or persons being our natural-born subject or subjects; and if such release and discharge shall be refused, then to transmit information of such refusal to the commander-in-chief of the squadron under whose order such captain or commander shall be then serving; which information the said commander-in-chief is hereby strictly directed and enjoined to transmit, with the least possible delay, to our Minister residing at the seat of Government of that state to which the said foreign ship of war shall belong, or to our Lord High Admiral, or Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for the time being, in order that we, being apprised of such proceeding, may forthwith direct the necessary steps to be taken for obtaining redress from the Government to which such foreign ships of war shall belong, for the injury done to us by the unwarranted detention of our natural-born subjects in the service of a foreign state.

And whereas it has further been represented unto us that divers mariners and seafaring men, our natural-born subjects, have been induced to accept letters of naturalization, or certificates of citizenship, from foreign states, and have been taught to believe that, by such letters or certificates, they are discharged from that duty of allegiance which as our natural-born subjects they owe to us; now we do hereby warn all such mariners, seafaring men, and others our natural-born subjects, that no such letters of naturalization, or certificates of citizenship, do or can, in any manner, divest our natural-born subjects of the allegiance, or in any degree alter the duty which they owe to us, their lawful Sovereign. But, in consideration of the error into which such mariners and seafaring men as aforesaid may have been led, we do hereby publish and declare our free pardon to all such our subjects, who, repenting of the delusion under which they have acted, shall immediately upon knowledge of this our royal proclamation, withdraw themselves from foreign service, and return to their allegiance to us; and we do declare that all such our subjects, who shall continue in the service of foreign states in disregard and contempt of this our royal proclamation, will not only incur our just displeasure, but are liable to be proceeded against for such contempt, and shall be proceeded against accordingly; and we do hereby declare, that if any such masters of ships, pilots, mariners, seamen, shipwrights, or other seafaring men (being our natural-born subjects) shall be taken in any foreign service by the Algerines, or other Barbary Powers, and carried into slavery, they shall not be reclaimed by us as subjects of Great-Britain.—And we do further notify, that all such our subjects as aforesaid, who have voluntarily entered, or shall enter, or voluntarily continue to serve on board of any ships of war belonging to any foreign state at enmity with us, are and will be guilty of high treason:—and we do by this our royal proclamation declare, that they shall be punished with the utmost severity of the law.

Given at our Court, at the Queen's Palace, the 16th day of October, 1807, and in the 47th year of our reign.—God save the King.

